

# RAMSEY & WARBOYS REPORTER

ISSUE 13

*Anniversary Edition 2016*

JULY 2016

COVERING  
LOCAL NEWS,  
SERVING LOCAL PEOPLE

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• HOLME • CONINGTON • PIDLEY • BENWICK

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Scene of the crash - located between Holme village and Yaxley. The victim was rescued from beneath the vehicle.

## CAR CRASH RESCUER PRAISED AS HERO BY VICTIM'S MOTHER

The mother of a 14 year old girl injured in a car crash just outside Holme Village has thanked her rescuer, calling her a "hero". Holme Resident Liz Russel came across the crash late on the night of Friday 10th June. The vehicle had come off the Yaxley road, approximately half a mile from Holme Village, having flipped and slid several meters down a water-filled dyke. No other party is thought to be involved. Liz, along with another young couple who stopped to assist, moved the young girl from underneath the vehicle and to the safety of

a nearby bank, before staying with her as emergency services arrived. The injured party was then taken to hospital, where she is being treated for numerous injuries and broken bones. Having been tracked down through social media, Liz confirmed she had met the girl and her family later in the week, and cautioned all young drivers against reckless driving on local roads, saying "I don't want to be seen as a hero, I just want to warn people about the dangers on the roads around here".



## OVER 500 CELEBRATE QUEEN'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

Over 500 people attended a street party in Ramsey town centre to celebrate the 90th Birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. Attractions such as the Fenland Light Railway, a rodeo bull, races and buffet tables attracted the crowds, who were marshalled by young volunteers and members of local groups, such as Ramsey Million Big Local and the Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust. Lisa Duffy, who conceived the idea, commented that she was thrilled with the turnout, saying: "I was absolutely overwhelmed by the number of families that came along. The biggest thrill was that it was an entirely free event, meaning that you didn't have to contribute anything if you turned up. We wanted to make it open to all, and that is what happened".

For more on this story, turn to page 8

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**PLUS Business, Travel  
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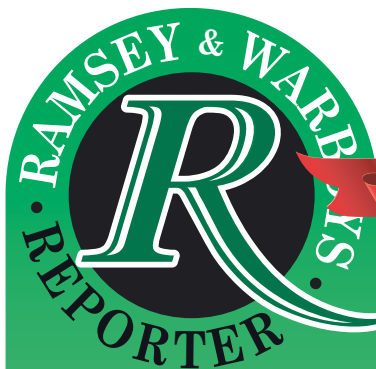
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The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter is an independent newspaper with no ties or associations with any larger publishers or organisations.

Each month, we bring you the best selection of news, views and what's on in the Ramsey area - written and produced locally and delivered **FREE** to your door.

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If you have a story or if you know of an event which may be of local interest please let us know; we can publish it in your newspaper,  
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# The Local Picture

Anniversary



Edition 2016



MO THE PUBLISHER

It doesn't feel like 12 months since the birth of *The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter*, although an awful lot has happened to keep our pages full of interesting news from around the area.

Thanks must go to all our readers, contributors and advertisers for their continued support. Here's to the next 12 months.



ADAM THE EDITOR

To watch this publication grow and come together over the past year has been the highlight of my working life thus far.

Now, it's time to look to the future. I have no doubt that *The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter* can leave a legacy in Ramsey and beyond as we continue to expand. The sky is the limit!



KEN THE GRAPHIC

You can now see the face of the guy who works in the background!

A lot of effort has been taken to ensure *The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter* makes a comfortable and attractive read. It's been a pleasure to work with such a dedicated team who put you, the reader and our advertisers at the front.

## ITS A **GOOD** MONTH FOR

### THE QUEEN

Her Birthday street party was attended by over 500 Ramsey residents. *Details on page 8*

## ITS A **BAD** MONTH FOR

### RAF UPWOOD

Over 5 separate incidents have been reported to police from the grounds of the former base.



## THE NATIONAL VIEW

WHAT WILL AFFECT YOU THIS MONTH?

### BREXIT

The country voted to leave the European Union by over a million and a half votes in the largest example of direct democracy since Great British records began.

### Political Parties

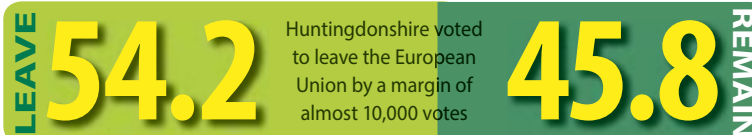
David Cameron has laid out a timetable to resign from office, while his opposite number, Jeremy Corbyn, has been abandoned by his shadow cabinet. At time of print 30 shadow ministers have resigned.

### Polish Peril

Officers with the Cambridgeshire Constabulary are investigating threats made against the Polish community in Huntingdonshire. There has been no connection with Ramsey, nor any such incidents reported in the town.

## Dates for your Diary JULY

3rd Flat out in the fens  
Ramsey St Marys  
9th Ramsey Carnival - Great Whyte  
16th Ramsey Choral Society  
Ramsey Rural Museum  
22nd Star Wars - The Force Awakens  
Ramsey Library  
26th Morris Dancing - The Jolly Sailor  
30th Horticultural Society Show  
Ramsey Rural Museum  
BANDS ON THE GREEN - Abbey Green  
3rd - 10th - 17th - 24th and 31st



## NEW IN THIS MONTH

Check out three feature interviews alongside a full investigation of the ongoing roadworks.



Over 100 attendees celebrated the life of local cricketing legend Andre Goodison who passed away earlier this year.

279

The number of confirmed finishers in this month's Abbey 10k. Times ranged from the low 30 minutes up to over an hour, with plenty of local groups and independent runners taking part.

87

The speed one motorcyclist was caught doing by Roadwatch volunteers outside Warboys.



A clipped wing was found to be responsible for the crash of a replica P51 Mustang in Benwick last year.

14

Number of weeks the Town Centre has been subject to temporary traffic lights as work continues on the Culverts.

900

Pounds raised by the St Thomas á Becket fete at the start of last month



ON LINE







## TEAM BEX TAKE OVER THE ABBEY 10K

Team Bex were out in full force at the Abbey 10k and Fun Run on Sunday 26th June. Almost 60 of the team took part over the 2 races representing the charity setup by Rebecca Griffiths to raise money for Hunts Community Cancer Network. There were some great results by the team as well across both events. Isabelle Wilkins was the 1st female in the Fun Run and came in 6th place overall with a time of 9 minutes 13 seconds on the 2.1km course. David Hudson from Aylesbury was first home for the team in the 10k race in 35 minutes and 27 seconds which saw him finish 8th overall. David used to attend school at Abbey College so didn't want to miss the chance to come back, he said: "I only landed back in the country in the early hours so it was a rush to get up here, I was pleased with the result on

only 2 hours sleep!". Team Bex was the chosen charity for this years Abbey 10k, to find out more about them and how it all started visit their fundraising page at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rebecca-griffiths4](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/rebecca-griffiths4).

Jonathan Escalante-Phillips was a last minute entry to the race and took victory in 32 minutes 35 seconds. Philippa Taylor took her 4th victory at the Abbey 10k in the ladies race finishing in 38 minutes 26 seconds. Gary Evans of Riverside Runners won the Fun Run in 8 minutes 32 seconds. Ramsey Road Runners would like to thank everyone who made the race possible and look forward to seeing everyone again next year. Full race results can be found at [www.ramseyroadrunners.org.uk/abbey10k/](http://www.ramseyroadrunners.org.uk/abbey10k/)

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## FAREWELL DENNIS JACKSON

26.09.1923 – 12.05.2016

By Pat Taylor

Dennis was born and lived his early years in North West London. He enjoyed belonging to the Boy Scouts and achieved the highest award in the Scout Movement – The Kings Award.

During the Second World War he served in the Royal Navy, surviving two sinkings (one a torpedo, the other a mine).

In 1948 Dennis married Phyllis, and they lived in his native North West London. His keen interest in local politics led to him becoming a councillor for Brent Council where he served for many years. During his time as Mayor of Brent he met the Queen and Queen Mother as part of his civic duties.

### Scouting

Dennis and Phyllis moved to Ramsey in the early 80s with an early love of scouting leading Dennis to help with the local scouting movement, one of his first contacts with local organisations, becoming a committee member.

His interest in trains and railways of various sizes led him to initiate the forming of the Fenland Light Railway. To raise money for this venture, he introduced the idea of selling sleepers – with the purchaser becoming a 'Friend of Fenland Light Railway' which included a 'Share Certificate'. The railway continues to flourish today a well-established concern.

Ramsey Carnival in its current format was revised in 1991 with a new committee, with Dennis a very active member.

Ramsey in Bloom was another activity which Dennis took a very active part in supporting. He was chairman and could frequently be seen around the town, smoking his pipe whilst painting the tubs.

### Mayor

Dennis became a Town Councillor in 1990, and from the moment he joined the council he played a very active part. He was very

keen to be a 'working' member with his past experiences often being very useful. He became Deputy Mayor in 1997, becoming Mayor in 1999 and remaining in office through the Millennium until 2001. The Ramsey Town signs were his idea, visiting the local schools and getting the children involved with the illustrations.

His term as Mayor finished in April, 2001 but due to the sudden death of the next Mayor, Avril Cross in November, 2001 he was elected Deputy Mayor to the new Mayor.

### Town Centre Partnership

The forerunner to the Ramsey Initiative was the Ramsey Town Centre Partnership with Dennis as Chairman. He designed a Bridge for The Barge Dock, which was initially to have been erected further along the bank. The designs for the bridge are held at Huntingdon District Council.

Dennis's wife Phyllis passed away in 2007 and he felt very sad and lonely. A year later, he wrote a letter that was published in the local newspaper asking for people in a similar position to reply and meet up for company. One of the respondents was a lady named (also) Phyllis and so they met, with their friendship growing and remaining loyal to the end.

### Jolly Sailor

One of the local, non-political areas Dennis leaves a space is The Jolly Sailor. A corner seat next to the bar at lunch times will be empty (for a brief while). He loved his daily visit to the pub, where he met and talked with local people. He always praised Ramsey, saying it was a 'good place to live'.

Ramsey gained a great deal from the efforts put in by Dennis. He will be sadly missed by many local residents.

*Thanks for all your efforts over the years.*

## LEGION OF HONOUR

Mr. Charles Wilson, aged 90, of Holme Village near Peterborough attended the French Ambassador's Residence in London on Friday 27th May 2016, where Mme Sylvie Bermann, the French Ambassador to the United Kingdom, awarded him the Légion d'honneur, France's highest award.

Like every young man during World War II, Mr. Wilson wanted to get into the action – so at 17 he signed up and after his training served in the King's Rifle Corps in France, Holland and Germany as well as taking part in the Normandy Campaign. It is for his service in the Normandy Campaign that

the French have awarded him this honor.

Mr. Wilson, a retired Master Plasterer, was born in London, and after the war, moved to Holme, where he managed the family plastering and building business for many years. He can also lay claim to French ancestry too, as a direct descendant of Claude DuChesne, a Huguenot immigrant to London in the seventeenth century, now recognized as one of the world's foremost clockmakers.

Mr. Wilson said that sadly the number who might have received the medal have dwindled but finally the day has come and he is proud and pleased to wear this medal.



## Showcasing the fashion of the 40's

On Thursday 12th May Carousel Boutique from Ramsey, held a summer fashion show for Macmillan Cancer Support. The Show was held at Ramsey Community Centre and featured 11 ladies modelling a variety of summer outfits & vintage looks. The event managed to raise £536.76 for the charity through ticket sales and a raffle held on the night. All proceeds have gone towards the Macmillan Woodlands Centre. All the outfits were available to purchase on the night through a pop up shop. Carousel Boutique is a ladies pre-loved & vintage shop located in Great Whyte.



**MACMILLAN.**  
CANCER SUPPORT

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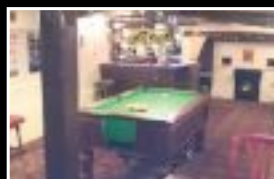


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# MUSIC IN THE GARDEN

You may be wondering why I'm telling you about a festival that's being held near Milton Keynes. Those of you who know me will already be aware that Dame Cleo Laine is my aunt. It's well worth the journey as you'll have a great day out in a wonderful setting and the opportunity of seeing some world renowned acts.

The Dankworth family and friends get together for a weekend of world class performances in a magical setting. Dame Cleo Laine plays host to a stellar line-up of artists as she once again opens to the public her enchanting private gardens at the Old Rectory for the 2016 "Music In the Garden: a Dankworth Family Festival".

The Old Rectory in Wavendon, a romantic Gothic Revival greensand and limestone vicarage built in 1848 by architect William Butterfield, has been home to the Dankworth family since the late 1960s. Alec and Jacqui Dankworth grew up there and Dame Cleo lives there still. The late Sir John Dankworth thought the idyllic, Victorian garden would be the perfect setting for hosting his own music festival, which he started in the 1990s. Over the years John and Cleo played host to such diverse performers as Eddi Reader, Fenella Fielding, Darius Brubeck, Alexander Armstrong, and numerous others from the worlds of music, theatre and the arts.

## Maureen Lipman

Scheduled to appear at this year's festival are actress, comedian and columnist Maureen

Lipman, internationally renowned classical guitarist Craig Ogden, poet and publisher Jeremy Robson, plus a full complement of Dankworths.



Jacqui Dankworth

British jazz diva Jacqui Dankworth and her husband American singer/pianist Charlie Wood share a concert featuring songs from their newly released duet recording, "Just You, Just Me", including special guest performances by the Milton Keynes Youth Choir under the direction of Craig McLeish.



by Maurice Kendrick

Dame Cleo Laine

## "Spanish Accents"

Award-winning bassist Alec Dankworth and his daughter, multi-talented multi-lingual vocalist Emily Dankworth, presenting their "Spanish Accents" project (complete with Flamenco dancing by Jesus Olmedo!)

Dame Cleo herself, joined by family and friends, in a rare public performance of Cleo's and John Dankworth's ground-breaking "Shakespeare and All That Jazz", to mark the Shakespeare 400th anniversary this year.

Tickets are available through  
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Alec Dankworth

## COMMUNITY NEWS Snippets

### Big Screen Racing at The George makes £470 for Cancer charity

At the beginning of last month, The George at Forty Foot held another successful Race Night to raise funds for Prostate Cancer. Although the amount of people who attended was low, pub landlord Sam Williams said he was very pleased at the generosity of those that did take part. "We were very pleased at the £470 that was raised

on the night, and are extremely grateful to our customers who took part", said Sam. Race Nights have become a regular event at The George, with their last 'meeting' also being a great success earlier this year.

For further information about future events call **The George Inn** on **01487 812 775**

**THE GEORGE INN**  
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## Wellsbridge wins again

Ramsey Forty Foot firm Wellsbridge Motor Homes is celebrating after it won another national gold award from Practical Motorhome magazine. Magazine readers voted for Wellsbridge to receive a gold medal in the customer satisfaction awards, which is part of a national competition for used motorhome dealers. This is the fifth year in a row Wellsbridge has been honored with the award, having won gold awards in the last two years preceded

by a further two years of silver awards in the same category. The local company employs over twenty-five staff members to sell over 150 varieties of motorhomes, having been founded by Harry Hyndman Senior 30 years ago. Harry's three sons, Lance, Harry and 'H' continue to lead the company into the future with continued success, while Harry's grandsons Lance Junior and Myles, alongside grand-daughter Sophie, are now all working for the company.

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# Right Royal Celebrations in Ramsey

The main street through the town, Great Whyte, was closed to traffic during the day to allow as many people as possible to attend. Local people brought along food to share and around 500 people of all ages joined in the free family fun and games.

The party was officially opened by Mayor Adela Costello. There were arts and crafts in the library and great fun was had on both a Rodeo Bull and the miniature train running down the road by Fenland Light Railway. To enable everyone to attend the community Bus picked up people in the villages. Young talent Maddison Pauley sang two sets and led the singing on the National Anthem at the cake cutting. A cake was baked and decorated by Michelle George and pieces were given to all the children. Ramsey Youth Workers organised traditional races and the event was masterfully compared by Richard Hyde resplendent in his bowler hat and Union flag waistcoat.

To celebrate the 90th Birthday of the Queen the residents of Ramsey combined a Big Lunch with a street party to mark the occasion.



Anna Bradley-Dorman a member of the small organising group (made up of members from Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust, Ramsey Million Big Local, Ramsey Library Board, Richard Hyde & Lisa Duffy – who had the original idea), said, 'It's great when everyone works together. Many groups and individual helped to make the day a success from the Army Cadets putting out the tables and chairs, loaned from Ramsey 1940's, to the kind donations from local businesses. Lots of individuals gave their time freely and local people brought along food to share. It was a real community event with all ages in attendance. We put our faith in the people of Ramsey and as always they did not disappoint. A big thank-you to everyone!'



Many other groups, organisations, businesses and individuals helped to make the event a great success. Thanks to the generosity of people at the party Ramsey Community Bus, Ramsey and District Day Centre and the Ram Jam Children's Book Festival in Ramsey were donated £60 each from the raffle that was held on the day.

The Street Party was based on The Big Lunch model which is a very simple idea from the Eden Project. The aim is to get

as many people as possible across the whole of the UK to have lunch with their neighbours annually in June in a simple act of community, friendship and fun. Since starting in 2009, thousands of Big Lunches have taken place in all types of communities. In 2015, 7.29 million people took to their streets, gardens and community spaces for the seventh annual Big Lunch. All people had to do was turn up with a plate of food to put on the communal table to share.



Students from the Abbey College, Ramsey, were assessed this month at the Nene Valley Flying Club for a place in their unique scholarship programme.

Ten students were evaluated over the course of the 5th – 6th June weekend, with senior members of the club noting their willingness to work within the team alongside their aptitude within a glider and on the airfield. Of these ten, six will be chosen to take part in the scheme, which will begin when last year's young pilots have completed their solo flights. The scholarship programme works exclusively with the Abbey College, and is only available to students who study there.

The scholarship programme will allow each successful applicant to learn, free of charge, how to pilot a glider to solo standard, while also teaching valuable life skills. Without the scholarship, the

average cost of getting a young pilot to solo standard can be as much as £2000. They will also become a member of the club for free and enjoy the full benefits of membership as a junior pilot, while being expected to perform the same day-to-day tasks as more experienced members of the team.

The applicants were taught the basic principles of flying a glider, each enjoying

two flights with a senior instructor in one of their recently purchased aircraft. They were also taught how to assemble and disassemble the aircraft, how to behave on an active airfield and how the relevant equipment works, such as the winch that launches each flight.

Former graduates of the scheme have gone on to start careers in aviation at firms such

as Marshalls Aerospace, and many remain active members of the club after their programme is completed.

Steve Jarvis, Senior Flying Instructor, said, 'It was a very busy two days and Sunday was very thermic, but all the young people performed very well and it is going to be extremely difficult to choose six going forward', while Peter Valentine, Vice-Chairman of the NVGC, also stated: 'They grafted all day and it is wonderful to see. Young people get criticized for being disinterested and these two groups were the complete opposite.'





# RAMSEY ARTS FESTIVAL

## The Gaiety Ballroom remembered.

Raw passion, power and soul. That is Who's Who tribute rock band playing at the Drill Hall in Ramsey on July 9th. They are acclaimed by members of the original band and those closely associated with it, including Pete Townshend himself, the legendary lyricist of 'The Who'. In particular drummer Paul "Moonie" Kemp bears an uncanny resemblance to the late great Keith Moon and prides himself on complete

authenticity when drumming styles and kit specification is concerned.

They are the group that most interprets the songs of Pete Townshend and the legendary live performances of The Who, with honesty and integrity. Giving nothing less than 100% during a performance, Who's Who ensure that a night to remember is guaranteed for those people who are able to attend. The event coincides nicely with Ramsey carnival a great way to complete a great day.



## Peterborough Morris

A different kind of passion will be found with Peterborough Morris. They dance traditional men's Morris dances of England, an important part of our country's heritage. You are invited to join them on the Tuesday 26th July at either the Railway pub at 8pm or the Jolly Sailor at 8.45pm and enjoy their dancing and a pint. Just turn up and enjoy the conviviality.



## Mischa Macpherson Trio

Looking ahead to August; The Mischa Macpherson Trio is performing at Upwood in Carlton House grounds on the 19th. Bring your deckchair and a drink and delight in the magical sound of Gaelic folk music on a summer's evening. Tickets for this multi award winning folk group are almost sold out but may be available from pndmcleod@btinternet.com or by calling 01487 814114.



Tickets (£10) are still available from ramseyartsfestival@gmail.com or by ringing 07808 314141

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## SPECIAL EGYPTIAN DAY AT UPWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

On Tuesday 21st June, Year 6 at Upwood Primary School was joined by History Off The Page for a special Egyptian day.

Pupils went to school dressed as Egyptian characters and were introduced to a variety of crafts during the morning, like painting hieroglyphics on papyrus and creating perfumed wax.

Later, the children created a banquet scene, with musicians and actors entertaining the Pharaoh and his wife.

Years 6 class teacher, Miss Clarke said 'The children had an amazing day and learnt a great deal about the Egyptian period.'



## Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan



## Bury Village Neighbourhood Plan Forum

By Jeremy Mumford

We continue to make progress working in our work towards the initial public consultation exercise.

We will be walking with the Ramsey Carnival on the 9th July to publicise our work and we will also have a stall where we will be talking about Bury Past and Present. So come along and tell us about your memories of Bury past, see some photos we have collected and see the difference between then and now and talk to us about what you want to see for the future.

### Competition

Lisa Schiavo is organising a drawing competition with our school children. We have asked them to show us their thoughts on our village. I am sure we will see some

fantastic pictures, there will be a winner's trophy and some of the pictures will be published on our website and local papers too.

Don't forget we need you to give us your ideas and thoughts, however big or small for how you want your village to develop, from seats to houses, from play areas for children to community spaces for us all to enjoy, there are no limits, let your imaginations fly. You can tell us your ideas by using the forum on our website at [www.buryvillagenp.co.uk](http://www.buryvillagenp.co.uk) emailing us at [greattolive@buryvillage.co.uk](mailto:greattolive@buryvillage.co.uk) or using one of the forms that will shortly be available at Bury Stores, Bury Cakes and Pies, The White Lion, Ramsey Library and Ramsey Indoor Market.

## Bury Parish Council report

By Peter Hazell, Chairman

The June meeting was once again well supported by members of the public. The meeting opened with the election of a new chairman as the previous Chairman, John Prestage, had most ably completed his 4 year term.

The post box in Upwood Road, opposite the old clinic site, which disappeared a couple of months ago has reappeared as a new and larger box. The plans for traffic calming in Owls End will be discussed in full at the July meeting.

There was a very lively discussion concerning the zip-wire which is situated in the small playing field by the play area. The residents in the houses which back on to the field have complained about the noise the zip-wire makes when being used and also the noise, including bad language, made by teenagers who congregate in the field at night. The residents would like to see the wire removed. On the other hand the mums with young children want the wire to stay where it is as the children get a lot of fun when using it.

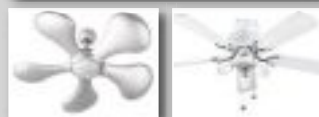
The Council, in trying to please both sides, has come up with a possible solution by having the wire "locked" between the hours of 7.00pm and 9.00 am (give or take a minute or two either side). It is hoped that this will deter the teenagers from using the field at night but still allow the young ones to enjoy the wire.

Two other concerns were raised. The number of teenagers who are going on to the RAF Upwood site and have been seen running around on the roofs of the old buildings. The other concern is the traffic that uses the "green lane" part of Tunkers Lane. It is the NUMBER, SIZE and SPEED of the vehicles that use this lane as a short cut (rat run). It is an unadopted road, maintained as a bridle way, and therefore should only be used by the residents of that part of the lane and any vehicles calling.

Jeremy Mumford gave an update of the Neighbourhood Plan, which is progressing well. A banner is being produced to "advertise" the village, and will be displayed at various points in the village. It will also lead the procession of young children at the Ramsey Carnival in July.

Bury is joining the parishes of Upwood and Wistow in the purchase of Speedwatch equipment. We now have two vacancies on the council. We are able to co-opt one at the July meeting and Huntingdon District Council have been notified of the second vacancy.

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be on Wednesday 6th July at 7.30pm in the village hall.



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# Peter Bucknell A year in office

## DISTRICT COUNCIL CHAIRMAN PETER BUCKNELL DISCUSSES HIS YEAR

diary. From May to May, Peter has completed over 133 events, which vary drastically. Coming from the naval event in the morning, which had over-run considerably due to weather and other considerations, I asked him if there was any trick to such work? "You have to do it with a bit of humour", is the reply. Indeed, his entire ethos could be summarized just so, although he warned about becoming too If you are not careful, people can get a little stuck in their ways. I attended an event recently, where someone went on for quite a while, and people switched off. And that's what you shouldn't be doing, you should keep things to the point, not too long, and you won't overrun". Were there any standout moments? One immediately springs to mind, "Only last week I met Prince Philip!". As it turns out, "he went past the three before me, and he ignored everyone else and had a little chat to me, which I thought was quite nice!". In particular, Peter appreciated the time taken by the Duke to speak to as many people as possible, but something else caught his attention. "What did really make me smile, obviously he did have to do his duties, saying hello to a few people, but before he left he went over to the audience and spoke to one woman with a badge, who turned out to be the designer. But all that needed designing was a small box, and he just said that - 'What, you designed a box?' When he said it, I thought that was typical of him, to the point!" However, he didn't divulge what wisdom the Duke of Edinburgh had imparted to him.

When we spoke to District Councillor Peter Bucknell last year, we enjoyed a cup of tea in the heart of Ramsey, and talked causally of the year ahead. We were both running late. This year, I joined him at Pathfinder House, the still relatively new and decidedly shiny structure housing the majority of HDC's civil service quotient. Outside, the Royal Navy flag was flying high (Peter noted a new Union flag had come out of his budget last year, but was not flying that day), and we were surprisingly on schedule, despite the bad weather having held Peter up at the Battle of Jutland memorial service. The Council Chairman's life revolves around the civic schedule, I would soon find out, but first it seemed more important to tackle the job itself.

But first, what is a District Council Chairman, and what is he to do? In Peter's own words, "I am a civic leader of this council, and I represent the council on many functions, but they bear no relation to running the council", although he does admit that his advice is sought on a number of matters. His basic role, as one understands it, is to maintain order and preside over council meetings, and to represent the council at all civic events. And by all, I mean just that.

"I'm still shocked at how many things I do!", says Peter, as we take a look through his civic

This is typical of Cllr Bucknell, who despite my repeated attempts has always kept his confidences and takes the political neutrality of his chairmanship very seriously. Despite being a lifelong conservative, as chairman of the council his role must not show political bias, and I was keen to ask if that ever presented difficulties? "Politically I'm neutral, which I am. I feel I am very fair, and I think that's why I've been voted in unanimously in the first year, and only a few weeks ago I was voted in unanimously again. And that's a nice compliment, that people feel I will play it straight". He does admit to



"getting annoyed with them occasionally", but submits that sometimes, that's how life goes.

As for the council meetings themselves, Peter is confident of their running, saying "I think this council runs extremely quietly. We have got some new councillors, so things could change! But generally, everyone is on board, and sometimes we have had recommendations from the opposition and everyone says 'okay, we'll sign up to that'." He notes the surprise several years ago, upon his voting for a suggestion made by opposition, and claims that such amazement is no longer a regular feature. "It's always been about common sense for me, and what is right for the community".

That being said, he did note that his "business mode" would often kick in, having come around £500 under budget last year. I added that another businessman, Upwood and the Raveleys Councillor Robin Howe, was recently elected as Executive Leader,

and asked Peter's views on the change. His surprisingly candid response reveals a little about the current struggles of the council: "Well, Robin has got a tough job, there's no question about it. Obviously its early days, but one of the things I can understand is a balance sheet, just like that, and robin also has that experience and business brain. Really, we do run this council now as a business, and we have to. We've got to generate far more money ourselves, because we cannot get it from central government anymore. In short, "its early days, but he has got his work cut out for him".

Is the council in crisis? Certainly not, but there are still battles to be fought and won. With Peter as Chairman and Robin as Executive Leader, it will be councillors from our local area now taking the lead on key issues, such as devolution, while the recent movements in Europe will give cause for thought. However, with strength on both sides, it is clear HDC remains in safe hands.



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**WORDPRESS:** <https://rwrstories.wordpress.com/>



# RAMSEY ROTARY NEWS



## Rotary Youth Exchange



Kayleigh Morris and Oliver Elkins this summers exchange representatives visited Ramsey Rotary Club with their parents to meet club members and to collect their "Goodie Bags" for their forthcoming overseas visits. Contents of their bags - club banner and leaflets of local places of interest for their host club, plus T shirt.

Kayleigh is visiting Japan on an exchange visit while Oliver is attending a youth camp in the Netherlands. Both will return to the club later in the year to report on their visit.

*Oliver and Kayleigh with Rotary Club President Jeremy Hyde and Youth Services Rotarian June Green.*



*Samuel receiving his certificate and award presented by District Governor Geoff Blurton*

## Samuel is Junior Young Photographer of the Year

Samuel Davies of Upwood School won first place in the Rotary junior photography competition organised by Rotary District 1070 which covers eight counties in central and east England. Samuel and his family attended the awards ceremony on Saturday 18th June at De Montfort University, Leicester. Samuel having been placed first by Ramsey Rotary Club in a local heat, his entry was then forwarded to the district competition.

This year the entry requirements were to produce a portfolio of three (3) photographs of "Our World is Beautiful" in colour or black and white on photographic paper. Each print, including any mount, to be no larger than A4.

The winning presentation of a certificate and award to Samuel was made by Rotary District Governor Geoff Blurton.



## Educating Nepal's Deaf Children

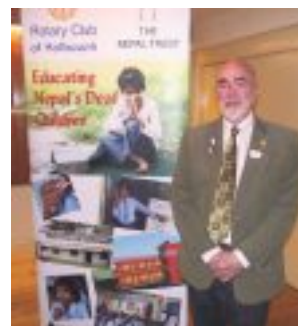
Ramsey Rotary's guest speaker in May, Rotarian Colin Scott from Holbeach Club. Colin gave an insight into his clubs partnership programme with The Nepal Trust a UK charity and the work they were jointly funding to help educate deaf children in Nepal.

Deafness is a huge problem partly due to genetics, ignorance, isolation and poverty. It is estimated there are 92,000 deaf children in Nepal with only one school accepting 15 deaf children amongst its hearing intake. Human Rights Watch have identified this as a significant human rights issue for Nepal. The school is the Three Lower Secondary School located in the village of Bazarhatti, 70 miles west of Kathmandu.

The school has been so successful that it attracts deaf pupils from far beyond its normal "walk to school" catchment area. Without any suitable facilities or official funding the school somehow manages to provide board and lodging for these children, who sleep and eat on the floor in a couple of storage rooms.

The earthquakes of 2015 were a severe setback for the school, whose core admin building was rendered unsafe. The school now struggles to function at all.

The joint project between Holbeach Rotary Club and The Nepal Trust is to revitalise the school by refurbishing the classrooms, building new sanitation facilities, renewing the water supply and



*Rotarian Colin Scott from Holbeach Club*



*Learning to sign*

most importantly by rebuilding and expanding the admin building to include dormitories, kitchen and dining area so as to accommodate an expanding intake of deaf children.

The Nepal Trust considers that returning this school to full use, with the additional facilities for up to 50 deaf pupils, is not only important for the local community, but potentially has significance for the wider education of deaf children in Nepal.

When refurbishment commences Ramsey Rotary Club have pledged to provide some financial assistance.

## Kids Out at Wicksteed Park



*Excited children converged on the train ride*

Fine weather was the order of the day in June when Ramsey Rotary Club organised the annual visit to Wicksteed Park for a day of fun and excitement for a group of local school children. Selected by teachers as children who would most benefit from the trip, 35 children from the Primary schools, 15 from Abbey College and 13 from Young Carers so 63 children traveled by coach accompanied by teachers and assistants. Rotarians who escorted the group, provided each child with a packed lunch, printed 'T' shirt and cap.

In total 2200 plus children were entertained at Wicksteed Park for the day where they had a free run of all the rides and amusements on site as well as Punch and Judy shows and a disco all provided and coordinated by Rotary District 1070.



*Packed lunches ready to be devoured*

## Ramsey Rotary Fun Run



*Katie Phillips from Upwood School raised the grand total of £207*



*Bury and Upwood Scouts selling home made refreshments*

Blessed with fine weather the 2016 Fun Run was held on One Leisure sports ground at Abbey College for the second year. The course length was 1.1 miles around the perimeter of the sports ground with 90 runners setting off in brilliant sun shine at 10.00 hrs and finishing at 11.00 hrs.

The early start was necessary to allow runners and families living in the village around Ramsey to get home before roads were completely closed for the Cambridgeshire Cycle Road Race.

Even with a reduced number of runners this year, possibly due to the cycle race, the sponsorship money pledged is expected to reach nearly £2,000. Local schools and organisations taking part included Spining Infants, Ramsey Juniors, Ashbeach, Little Mirracles, Ramsey Pre School, Bury & Upwood Scouts and Ramsey Scouts.

Following a replacement knee operation earlier this year Rotarian Gina Randall supported by a walking stick slowly completed the course raising £162. Well done Gina.



*We've talked about the girls and now it's time for the boys. Next up - male dogs.*

*Like with female dogs, there are health implications for entire (un-neutered) male dogs. Although, we don't see many cases of testicular cancer and prostate problems overall – they are almost exclusively older entire male dogs and the conditions are considered relatively common in these dogs.*

Testicular cancer it is often curable with castration (neutering) but it can spread to vital organs when it can be fatal. Often castration will help with prostate problems too. Entire male dogs are also at an increased risk of complicated hernias (when internal organs protrude through the muscle layers). Most need repair and the surgery can be complex, possibly needing specialist intervention.

The overall incidence of these problems is quite low but this probably because the majority of owners neuter their male dogs at a young age for other reasons – namely behavioural!

There are many undesirable behaviours exhibited by entire male dogs. They are more likely to;

- be territorial (marking it with their strong smelling urine - even in your home!)
- display dominant behaviour
- be aggressive with other dogs
- be the target of other dog's aggression
- display unwanted mounting behaviour (often a sign of sexual frustration)
- escape and roam while looking for a mate, increasing the risk of being involved in a road accident. (Male dogs have been



known to scale large fences and break down doors when they smell a female in season!)

It's true to say testosterone can take over their lives - always seeking a female to mate with. Of course every dog (and owner) is different so you may not get all of these behaviours or medical problems but all are linked to testosterone.

Castration is a relatively straight forward procedure which only requires a day's visit to the Vets. It involves surgically removing the testes (therefore stopping the production of testosterone) under general anaesthetic. Although their exercise should be restricted for 7-10 days, most dogs recover and bounce back in 24-36 hours. Generally the younger they are, the quicker they recover. We recommend castrating dogs at around 6-12 months old depending on their size and breed – your Vet will advise you on this.

There's one more thing to talk about on this subject and it's a fancy word called "cryptorchid". This is the word Vets use to describe a dog whose testes haven't descended and are retained within the body. If this happens the risk of the medical problems mentioned above are FAR FAR more likely to affect them later in life. If your dog is cryptorchid, we urge to have them neutered ASAP for health reasons (even if their behaviour is fine!).

**If you have any questions about neutering, please ask your Vet or call Cromwell Vets on 01487 814789 (Ramsey surgery).**

# Neutering - Part 3



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# WOMENS INSTITUTE

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## Out and About with the WI

On joining the WI a whole raft of opportunities are available on top of the monthly meetings held at your own WI. Over the last month there have been lots of chances for members of the WI to meet up with each other locally and nationally. Delegates and observers spent a couple of days in Brighton as they attended the national AGM on the 11th June. The weather was kind and the residents of Brighton probably wondered what was happening as 4,000 women from across England and Wales, including a coachload from this area, picnicked on the seafront at lunchtime. The meeting was addressed by two very inspiring women the Lord Speaker, Baroness D'Souza, and the BBC Trust Chairman, Rona Fairhead. Two resolutions were put to the meeting and, after at times an emotional debate, both were passed with large majorities. Janice Langley, Chair of the NFWI, said:

"This is a really positive result and truly demonstrates the breadth and diversity of WI campaigning. As WI members voted for both resolutions proposed today, they will now be calling for appropriate care in hospitals for people with dementia, and calling on all supermarkets to avoid food waste." It will be interesting to see how these campaigns develop over the next few months and how individual WIs rise to the challenge of promoting these resolutions. Closer to home WIs from the Ramsey area met together for an American themed evening and members have been out and about supporting other community groups at numerous fetes, events etc. These have included such events as the Thomas a Becket & Ramsey St Mary's Church Fete and the Abbots Ripton Garden Show.



### Ramsey WI

This month the members of Ramsey St. Mary's WI 'got knotted!' Wendy Smith provided kits and instruction on the art of knotting. Some attempted to make key rings and others progressed to making a dragon fly - with varying degrees of success. Earlier in the month a number of ladies and friends visited Kathy Browns Garden, Stevington, after spending the morning in Olney and a stop off on route at the Cath Kidston shop at Eaton Socon. We were

treated to a guided tour of the gardens and were then served delicious homemade tea and cake by the lady herself.

At our July meeting we shall be hearing all about 'The Great Flood of 1947' from Mike Petty. So why not come along and give the WI a try?

**For more information about the WI or find details about a WI near you visit: [www.thewi.org](http://www.thewi.org)**

### Abbey WI



Goodness Abbey W.I. has been busy since last I wrote. It was our turn to organise the yearly Group meeting when 4 W.I.'s in the area grouped together to meet for a catch up: Ramsey, Ramsey St. Marys and Holme are grouped with us. A great set of ladies. We planned an American evening with our first speaker Linda Scholes - an American obviously - giving an amusing account of her growing up in rural America, followed by refreshments which as far as possible had an American touch with Pecan Pies, Devil's food cake, brownies etc. After the inevitable raffle the evening concluded with songs from the shows by the Merry Makers to which we were all invited to join in the singing. The competition of a decorated cup cake was won by Betty Dolby and joint second were Diana Hyde and Barbara Birchall from Ramsey. Well done ladies. Group meetings are a great way to chat to our neighbouring W.I.s and to extend our friendships. Almost before we could blink it was our own meeting on a cold miserable afternoon - flaming June it wasn't! However our speaker, Paul Vickers, soon had us chuckling, then alternately roaring with laughter and gasping in admiration as he gave us a whistle stop tour of the "History of Magic" complete with tricks and examples which had us rubbing our eyes with disbelief. An excellent speaker who interacted so well

with his audience - our ladies - there was no chance to be shy. The competition for the prettiest rose was won by Betty White with Karen Prestage second.

And then 2 days later it was the Thomas a Becket fete on the church green, for which Abbey had a stall selling anything but cake as this produce was already taken. The ladies rose to the challenge producing chutney, pickles, marmalade, rhubarb, plants, more rhubarb, books and yet more rhubarb. We ran a raffle for 3 baskets filled to capacity with delicious food and drink items. It was a thoroughly worthwhile afternoon, the weather held and so people turned out to support making our fund raiser a success. So if you like living in the fast lane come along and give Abbey W.I. a try. We meet on the first Thursday of the month in Bury village hall 2:00 till 4:00. Next month the talk is entitled "A Rubbish Talk" - yes you did read that correctly and the competition is a piece of memorabilia from the Queen's reign. There is something for everyone, a craft group, book club, tea & chat, a coffee morning and a lunch club which this month met at the Cock in Hemingford and then spent a very pleasant afternoon meandering around the Manor House gardens in Hemingford. You will be sure of a very warm welcome from us.

**Karen Prestage - President**

## WI Tell Stories

Not just a monthly meeting but so much more at Ramsey WI. Are you new to the area or just looking for new interests or want to meet new people? Then come along to The Ramsey Community Hall at 7.30 on the second Monday of the month. We also have craft, drama, reading and walking groups; we have talks, discussions, outings and lots of fun.

June is member's night at Ramsey WI, this is when instead of the committee organising a speaker, one or several WI ladies organise the night's events. This year Margaret told us the story of her great uncle, John Thomas Buckenham, who died June 1916 on the HMS Hampshire. As a young man John had been caught poaching and was allowed to join the navy as an alternative to a more conventional punishment. He sent his family Christmas cards, letters and postcards from around the world, all carefully preserved in albums. John drowned on 5th June 1916 when HMS Hampshire sank west of the Orkney Islands,

Scotland. The armoured cruiser Hampshire was taking Kitchener to Russia in order to attend negotiations when, during a force 9 gale, the ship struck a German mine, laid by the newly launched German U boat U-75. John was one of more than 600 killed on board the ship.

Margaret, with her memorabilia, has also been recorded for an Antiques Road Show special at the Thiepval war memorial in northern France. We watched the DVD of Margaret's segment of the programme which was presented to her as a memento.

We were also lucky enough to be able to look at a scrap book the late Kate Wiltshire made to celebrate Ramsey WI's 90th Birthday. This usually lives in the archives of Huntingdon Library but Ramsey WI president Sue Webster persuaded them to let us borrow this book for the next two months meetings. Next month Nikki Sly from Bramble Lodge, Great Stukley will be talking about her experiences rearing and keeping Alpacas. So come along to Ramsey Community Hall on Monday July 11th at 7.30, a warm welcome to all women.

WI	Time & Date	Location
Ramsey Abbey	2pm - 1st Thursday	Bury Village Hall
Holme	7.30pm - 1st Thursday	Holme Village Hall
Ramsey	7.30pm - 2nd Monday	Ramsey Community Centre
Ramsey St. Mary's	7.30pm - 3rd Wednesday	The Barn, Ashbeach School
Warboys	7.15pm - 2nd Wednesday	Warboys Parish Centre
Wistow	7.30pm - 2nd Wednesday	Wistow Village Hall





## HOLIDAYS+TRAVEL

Touring China is a fantastic experience, but with such a big country, how do you know what to see and do in China? Well an organised tour is the way forward, below are a few ideas of some of the main things to see and do, choose the ones you want and find a tour that takes them all in.



### Great Wall of China.

This is on everyone's list, as it should be. The Great Wall of China was built over 2,000 years ago, by Qin Shi Huangdi, the first emperor of China and is a triumph of engineering. Over 13,170 mile in length. It is now a UNESCO heritage site.

Terracota Army.

These are another top tourist attraction to see when visiting China. Discovered by accident in 1974 at Xian, when farmers digging a well broke into a pit containing 6000 life size terracotta warriors and horses. It is a sight not to be missed.

### Forbidden City.

Lying at the city centre and called Gu Gong in Chinese, it was the imperial palace for 24 emperors and took 14 years to build. Located in the heart of Beijing. It is the world's largest palace complex, with more than 8,700 rooms. It was forbidden to enter without the express permission of the emperor, which is how it got its original name.



### Chengdu Panda Breeding Research Centre.

Who doesn't love a Giant Panda? The Giant Panda Breeding Research Base is located on Futoushan Mountain and is a popular stop for tourists, where they can spend time with some of China's most majestic animals and learn about them and their declining habitat. Sacred Road and Avenue of Statues.

The Sacred Way of the Ming Tombs in Beijing was originally built to lead to the Changling mausoleum. Alongside the Sacred Road are 18 pairs of marble figures, opposite each other, almost as if watching you pass by.

# WHAT TO SEE AND DO IN CHINA

These figures include 12 pairs of animals such as lions, horses, elephants and camels, as well as 6 pairs of human figures.

### Summer Palace.

The large Summer Palace compound is centred on Kunming Lake, 9 miles from Beijing. In summer, you can explore the lake by boat, and in the winter you can skate across it. It is said to be the best and largest preserved imperial garden in the world. A visit here does involve plenty of walking, so wear comfortable shoes.

### Wild Goose Pagodas.

Small Wild Goose Pagoda in Xi'an and its large neighbour, Big Wild Goose Pagoda, are 2 important Buddhist sites, built about 1300 years ago. The 2 pagodas were a symbol of peace in the city. Pagodas are a traditional part of Chinese architecture.



### Xi'an Bell Tower.

The bell Tower is a symbol of the city of Xi'an and one of the grandest of its kind in China. Iconic bell tower built in 1384, during the Ming dynasty. It's a traditional building that is very impressive and marks the geographical center of Xi'an.

### Han Tombs.

The Hanyang Tomb and Museum is about 12 miles from Xi'an. The museum has an underground exhibition hall so that you can see the results from the archeological digs. You can get a view through the glass floor over the burial pits.

### Shanghai City.

Shanghai City offers many spectacular views and different perspectives, ancient and modern, Eastern and Western. It is the face of modern China, with towering skyscrapers, modern art galleries, fashionable shops and a population of over 23 million. Go to the Bund to watch ships on the river or walk across Tiananmen Square. Wander around the Shanghai City museum and galleries. Get a great city view from the top of the Oriental Pearl Tower or the Jin Mao Tower (It takes just 45 seconds for the lift to reach the 88th floor). A visit to The Old Town should be on your what to see and do in China list. Fuxing Park allows you to get away from it all, a nice and peaceful spot. In the evening explore all

manner of fashionable restaurants, bars and nightclubs.

### Jade Buddha Temple.

The Jade Buddha Temple of Shanghai is an active temple with around 70 resident monks. Its a popular place for tourists to visit. Built to house 2 jade Buddha statues which had been brought from Burma. Both the Sitting Buddha and the Recumbent Buddha are carved from whole white jade, and a must see.

### Yangtze River Cruise.

Take a Yangtze River Cruise, all you need do is sit back and admire the steady flow of history and heritage that survives along the river banks as you wind your way through impressive gorges and cliffs. The magnificent Three Gorges are the highlight of the river cruise, rising dramatically from the flowing



waters, as each bend in the river offers a new breathtaking panorama.

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# UnLtd\*Potential

by Val Fendley



Ramsey, as one of 150 Big Local areas (a lottery funded scheme), is eligible to signpost individuals with great business ideas to the UnLtd\* Star People scheme. If their idea is accepted as having potential they complete an online application form and could initially receive up to £500 as a 'Try It' award to see if their idea has potential. This can be followed up by a £5000 'Do It' award and in time £15,000 'Build It' award. Examples of local people who have already received star people funding are:

- **Maurice Kendrick** for his community newspaper;
- **Paul Gould** for his start-up business, Mr Handy Helper;
- **Michael Muir** for gliding club scholarships/apprenticeships.

During the early years of Big Local, UnLtd\* tried to work with all 150 Big Local areas but it became increasingly difficult to support the programme across England. A decision has now been made to support

UnLtd\* for social entrepreneurs

15 areas intensively each year. However, to be considered for this support the individual Big Local areas had to apply. Ramsey Million Partnership applied this year. They had to put forward reasons why this community should be considered and how we would continue to support social entrepreneurs. A key consideration for Star People funding is how the business idea links in with identified priorities within the local area. The priorities for Ramsey are identified in the Ramsey Million Community Plan – to read the plan visit [www.ramseymillion.org](http://www.ramseymillion.org)

We're delighted to announce that Ramsey was successful and now becomes a Star People, intensive support area. Awards manager Sue Foster has a wealth of experience in the North East and Eastern coastal areas. She has helped people who see problems to see solutions instead, developing ideas that not only benefit the

individual but benefit the wider community at the same time.

Sue said, "At UnLtd\* it is our belief that local people have the answers to make their area an even better place to live". She went on to say that "a developing evidence based

platform serves to highlight and quantify the positive impact and positive change entrepreneurs have on their communities".

**You can find out more about the UnLtd\* Star People scheme by visiting the website - <https://unltd.org.uk/starpeople/>**

UnLtd\* for social entrepreneurs

For more information on any of the Ramsey Million projects please contact us:

General Enquiries & Information

The Neighbourhood Office, 25 Great Whyte, Ramsey PE26 1HG

Telephone: 01487 814897 or 07955 817137 • Email: [ramseymillion@gmail.com](mailto:ramseymillion@gmail.com)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/ramseymillion](http://www.facebook.com/ramseymillion) • Twitter: @RamseyMillionBL

Website: [www.ramseymillion.org](http://www.ramseymillion.org) • Local Trust: [www.localtrust.co.uk](http://www.localtrust.co.uk)

## PICNIC CONCERT

### SATURDAY 16TH JULY

There is still time to buy your tickets for the forthcoming Picnic Concert at The Ramsey Rural Museum on Saturday, 16th July. Ramsey Choral Society will be joined by Upwood Ukuleles and top brass group Variante, performing music for a summers evening in the lovely courtyard setting. Tickets are £10 in advance. £12 on the night and can be purchased from School Plus, Ramsey Rural Museum during opening hours, choir members or by ringing 01487 813562.

The final concert of their 25th anniversary year is a performance of Handel's Messiah on Saturday, 10th December in St Thomas a Becket Church, Ramsey, with orchestral accompaniment. If you have sung Messiah in the past or to sing it is on your wish list then contact 01487 813562 for further details of

how to join them for this extra special event. They have always welcomed young singers, providing free membership for those in full-time education whether at school or college. They are also now pleased to offer half-price membership for the performing year September-July to those who are no longer studying but are under the age of 26 on 1st September. In addition, they offer two singing bursaries of free membership, one for tenor and one for bass, to run for 2 years subject to an audition. Applicants would need to be under 30 on 1st September. Call 01487 813562 to find out more.

Full details of the choir activities can be found at [www.ramseychoral.org](http://www.ramseychoral.org).

Proud Warboys, Wistow & Bury District Councillor  
**Jill Tavener**  
**THANK YOU!**



May I express my gratitude to all those who voted to elect me as their district councillor at this year election. The run up to the election was an eye-opener with many people helping me cover all areas. We had one of the highest turnout of voters - which is fantastic. I would like to thank everyone who helped my campaign, from stuffing envelopes to knocking on doors and with us on Election Day.

#### PROUD TO WORK FOR THE TWO WARDS

I am very excited and proud to be representing the two wards and working alongside District Councillor Peter Bucknell.

My commitment to the community is demonstrated in:-

- Taking a keen interest in local issues and supporting the work of the Parrish Council
- Expanding the facilities for local groups.
- Leading on environment changes such as dog pollution and speeding traffic
- Working closely with youngsters - introduce activities to reduce anti-social behaviour

JILL TAVENER - HUNTINGDON DISTRICT COUNCILLOR, WARBOYS WISTOW & BURY

Phone: 01487 823082

Email: [jtavener2@gmail.com](mailto:jtavener2@gmail.com)

# ONLINE

<https://www.facebook.com/ramseyandwarboysreporter>

TWITTER: @RWReditorial

WORDPRESS: <https://rwrstories.wordpress.com/>



## Laura and Sarah have a successful night at St Ives charity event



The Glitter Ball was held at the Burgess Hall in St Ives on the 20th May 2016. Organised by Laura Phillips and Sarah Cornwell, for the Alzheimer's Society which is a charity close to both their hearts with various fundraising activities on the night resulting in an amazing total of £4028.39 raised on the evening.

Sarah and Laura would like to say a massive thank you to everyone who attended and

also to their sponsors, Webtec, Cornwell and Son, Truck East, LRS, Almaden, Abbotts Events, Swannells Transport, Flashcam Photography, Johnsons Farm and Hire. Digital. Without their support they couldn't have made the charity ball what it was.

### Amazing acts

The night consisted of a photo and drinks reception, three course sit down dinner, then some amazing acts, local singers Dale Taylor and Charlotte Pergande, Magician Lewis Joss and local DJ Kieran Reed. The acts had the guests totally entertained from the start right up until the end of the evening. Hilary Shepherd from the Alzheimer's Society gave a short speech about the charity outlining the importance of how fundraising helps them carry out the fantastic work they do.

Laura and Sarah would also like to thank the friends and family that helped to run and support the event, "they truly are a remarkable bunch of people", said Sarah.

"We look forward to seeing you all at the next charity Ball on Saturday 27th May 2017", added Sarah.

If you are a local company and would like to support next year's charity ball, contact [glitterballevents@gmail.com](mailto:glitterballevents@gmail.com)

## The Bengal plays host to Ramsey Junior School

Around sixty 8 and 9 year olds from year 4 of Ramsey Junior School, who are learning about their local town, called into The Bengal Indian Restaurant as part of their topic. Following field trips to local shops and businesses, the children will produce some professional leaflets about Ramsey including a restaurant review.

Assistant manager Munyam Khan at The Bengal was happy to provide a wonderful meal for every child that consisted of an Onion Bhaji or Vegetable Samosa as a starter, followed by a main course of Chicken Tikka Biryani.

Organised by year 4 teachers Mrs Millican and Mr Parnell, this is the second year Ramsey Junior School have been guests at The Bengal with this newspaper reproducing some of the reviews in our August edition last year and of course we will be doing the same in next month's issue.



## Crunch YOUTH CLUB

by Ben Jones - Chairperson of the youth committee

## drugs and alcohol awareness

At the club we do lots of different activities, some are fun and some teach us stuff. For one of the sessions we had a lady called Jacqui come in to find out what we knew about drugs in the area and to teach us how to keep ourselves safe.

We learnt about different classes and types

of drug and the effects they have on you. Jacqui told us about long term damage to your brain and about her work with people who are addicted.

She had scratch cards so we could smell what drugs might smell like so that we were aware.



One of the funniest bits of the session was trying on beer goggles. These give you a sensation of being drunk. We had to walk and pick up coins and things. Everyone laughed but Jacqui did tell us how important it is to be in control and about the dangers you face when you're out of control.

CRUNCH is a great club for 11-16 year olds in the Ramsey area. We meet at The Boundary (Abbey College site) on Friday's from 7-9pm. There are over 60 members but usually we have about 20-25 each week. It would be good to see more young people joining in.



For more information about Jacqui and her work contact CASUS

<http://www.cpft.nhs.uk/services/CASUS-cambridgeshire-child-and-adolescent-substance-use-service.htm>



For more details contact ...

Tel: 01487 814897

Email: [ramseymillion@gmail.com](mailto:ramseymillion@gmail.com)

Website: [www.ramseymillion.org](http://www.ramseymillion.org)

[www.facebook.com/CRUNCHRamsey](https://www.facebook.com/CRUNCHRamsey)

@RamseyMillionBL







## BUSINESS+FINANCE

### Equal pay in small business

Most business owners know that equal pay is a legal requirement, but in a small business what does this actually mean, and what do small business owners need to do to protect themselves?

Watch out for new regulations that come into force in October 2016 where employers who employ more than 250 employees will be required to publish gender pay gap reporting.

#### What is equal pay?

Equality of pay in a broad sense means making sure that discriminatory factors (such as sex, race, disability) do not influence employees' pay. What is specifically recognised as "equal pay" is the requirement that men and women must be paid equally when doing equal work. Jobs are considered as being "equal work" when they are the same or broadly similar roles (also described as "like work"), have been rated as equivalent under a formal job evaluation scheme, or are of equal value in terms of the demands placed on employees performing those roles.

#### Finding out whether there's a problem

To establish whether there is an equal pay issue in your business you need to conduct some kind of audit. That sounds like an administrative nightmare, time consuming and detracting from perhaps more important things. But in fact, in a small business especially, it can be straightforward and not too time-consuming or burdensome.

The first thing you need to do is work out which jobs you should be comparing with which. You need to decide which jobs are "like work" and which are not like work but are of "equal value". This process will clearly be easier if employees have up-to-date job descriptions, so if you don't have these, getting them in place is a good first step. Once you have information about the roles, clearly identifying which jobs involve "like work" is relatively straightforward. Deciding which jobs are not "like work" but are of equal value is more challenging. To do this you need to look at factors such as skills, knowledge, responsibility levels and level of qualification required. There is a useful toolkit on the Equality Human Rights website which assists in scoring aspects of roles to establish whether they are of equal value.

Once you know which jobs to compare with which, look at the pay and benefits staff in those roles are receiving. Are they equal? If there are discrepancies, why is that? It could be that individuals had different starting salaries due to market conditions at the time of recruitment, it could be that differing length of service has led to higher salaries, there could be additional benefits related to some jobs, or there may have been higher pay rises awarded to some individuals during the course of their employment. You need to establish whether any

differences are justifiable in order to work out whether there is an equal pay vulnerability. Consider what the reasons are for the differentials and establish whether you have evidence that will support that reason (details of recruitment difficulties, higher performance or similar). If you haven't got evidence that a pay differential is genuinely and objectively essential for business reasons, you should take steps to address it.

#### Avoiding equal pay problems

Once you've established whether there are any equal pay issues in your business, and hopefully addressed them, you need to ensure disparities and vulnerabilities don't creep in further down the line. There are a number of steps you can take to avoid this:

- Put in place a salary structure or some kind of system for determining remuneration in your business
- Make sure all staff have job descriptions and review these regularly to ensure they remain up to date
- On a regular basis take a step back and look at pay across your business, to ensure you spot possible irregularities early on
- Beware individual negotiation of salaries, either at the beginning or during employment. Bear in mind that men are more likely to attempt to negotiate on salary than women are, for a variety of reasons. If someone wants to negotiate a salary, you don't necessarily need to say no, but consider the wider impact if you agree an increase
- Conduct a review of everyone's salary at the same time, not on an individual basis. If reviews of salary happen on an annual basis all at once, there is less likelihood of individual disparities creeping in

Paying staff equally and fairly makes good business sense. It reduces resentments, improves staff retention and avoids time-consuming grievances and even possible legal action. Taking some time to look at equal pay in your business and put measures in place to avoid problems later is well worth doing.



Face2faceHR offers, practical and realistic advice and tailored solutions for businesses. Contact me on 01487 711959 dawn.cross@face2faceHR.com

### What's your purpose? (Or to put that another way - why are you in business?)

If you don't know, your customers surely don't. More importantly, if you don't know, you won't be able to tell your customers why they should choose you over your competitors. Answering this simple question is critical to forming a purpose statement and creating your marketing strategy.

#### What was your purpose in starting your business?

Undoubtedly when you decided to start your business you had an inspiration. Was it to provide a service or product better, faster or cheaper than what was currently available? Was it to fill a gap in the marketplace? Perhaps you were inspired to run a business that people enjoyed working for or that maintained environmentally and socially responsible ethical standards or that surpassed existing companies in providing superior customer service. Whatever your mission, find it and then write it down.

#### The Power of Why

Experience shows that companies with a clear and ever-present purpose statement surpass their competition and last in the marketplace. Purpose (or Why) statements define and preserve and strengthen a company's unique competitive advantages. Additionally, companies who are clear about who they are and what they do are less likely to make irrational decisions in response to competition and fluctuations in the marketplace. However, that does not mean your purpose statement should be inflexible. A good purpose statement can lead a company for 10 to 20 years if time and effort were spent in creating it. However, re-evaluating your why from time to time to see if it is still relevant, significant and appropriate is advised.

#### Be Specific

You want to create a statement that you and your team can look to every day and ask "Am I fulfilling the company's mission?" For example, one statement could be "to be the leading game software developer for teens". A more actionable purpose statement would be "Surpass XYZ games developer in sales, customer experience and speed to market". The second purpose statement has clear goals and direction, while the more abstract version would be more appropriate for a vision statement than a purpose statement. The second statement clearly supports the vision statement.



#### Include a Call to Action

You can distinguish your purpose statement by including a call to action. This is missing in most company purpose statements and has several defining and distinguishing characteristics:

- It motivates and generates an emotional reaction from your team
  - It is easy to understand and translates into what your employees do every day
  - It states a goal that can be measured and identified easily
  - It reflects and is rooted in the competitive environment in which your company functions
- Think back to this statement: "Surpass XYZ games developer in sales, customer experience and speed to market", if you run this statement through the above four qualifications, you will get a yes every time.

#### Creating a Purpose Statement that Fits Your Business

When creating your purpose statement, consider these aspects of your business:

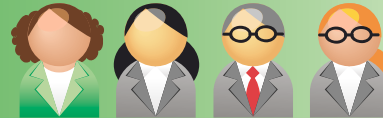
- What is your company's history and tradition? How does it influence what you want to accomplish today and in the long term?
- How do you characterize the management philosophy of the company? What input does management have in the direction of the company?
- What distinguishes your company from all of the other companies that perform the same service or function? How do you already surpass the competition? What can you do to continue surpassing them?
- What goals are realistic when considering the available resources?
- Where do you need to improve in order to beat the competition? What are your competitors doing that you can imitate and improve upon?
- And perhaps most importantly – what impact do you have on your customers' lives?



To find out more on how Pavilion Accountancy can help your business please call 01487 898440 or email nick.kay@pavilionaccountancy.co.uk



# BUSINESS+FINANCE



## Link4 DATES



### Link4Coffee Ramsey

The Rendezvous Café, 6 Darling Mews, Ramsey, Huntingdon PE26 1HT

Link4Coffee events are informal and relaxed drop-in sessions, organised to provide a regular opportunity to connect with others in your local community. At a Link4Growth community networking event, you will find yourself in a friendly environment where you are able to tap into the connections and experience of others.

13th July	2nd November
7th September	30th November
5th October	

10am – 11.30am



## Link4Growth

### Dates for Link4Business, Whittlesey

Falcon Hotel, 1 London Street, Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire PE7 1BH

Link4Business provides a structured and educational networking environment for businesses. It's an event where businesses can come together, network make new connections and learn from each other too.

12th July	11th October
9th August	8th November
13th September	

6.30pm – 8.30pm

### Dates for Link4Business, Waterbeach

Stirling House Business Centre, Denny End Road, Waterbeach, Cambridgeshire CB25 9QE

26th July	27th September
23rd August	25th October

6.30pm – 8.30pm



## Abbey College Open New Business Centre

The Abbey College will be launching their new business centre with an open day on the 15th July

Having renovated the former cafeteria located adjacent to the historical Abbey building, the new business centre will provide much needed space for independent businesspeople, social groups and those running educational courses in the community.

The site, which is separated from the main school by fencing, includes a lengthy meeting table, several areas of comfortable seating, presentational supplies and tea/coffee making facilities, all of which are available to any user. Not just a business site, this communal area will be available

#### Easy to access

What is most attractive about this site, according to Lettings Co-ordinator, Kirsty McGowan, is that the site is centralised and easy to access for most local businesses. "A lot of people think Ramsey is out of the way, but it's not. You have March, Wisbech, Huntingdon, Peterborough, St Ives and St Neots all in the area, and Ramsey is actually in the middle. Many offices and companies like to have monthly meetings, and using my own personal experience if we have a place like this in Ramsey, many people who usually have to drive to multiple workplaces will have a central location to meet at."

And there has already been plenty of interest. According to Kirsty "some adult learning groups have already expressed interest in the site. There is the potential for some groups to run first aid courses here and there's been plenty of talk at local Link4Growth meetings. We expect there will be a lot of interest in the site."

#### Flexibility

Regarding a payment structure, this is currently based on half and full day rates, but a great emphasis is placed on flexibility. "Our pricing structure is fair, and has been compared against plenty of similar sites", says Kirsty, "But as much as it is half days and full days, if someone did want to book for six hours, we have a separate price guide to include that. Currently, you get a five percent discount for booking a half day, and a ten percent discount for a full day booking".

As for the future, the site is set to expand with many other areas available to hire. Other options, including partitioning the business centre to create glass-walled 'pods', are also being considered by the management team.

For further information call  
01487 812352 or visit their web site at  
[www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)

## OPEN DAY

FRIDAY 15TH JULY

10am to 1pm - Limited day pass required - see below!

ABBHEY COLLEGE, RAMSEY

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Or do you need space for training courses?

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**Please contact 01487 812352 to reserve your pass.**



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ABBHEY ROAD, RAMSEY, CAMBS, PE26 1DG

For more information, please contact **01487 812352**

or visit our website at

[www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk](http://www.abbeycollege.cambs.sch.uk)



# RAMSEY CULVERTS

THE REPORTER INVESTIGATES THE ONGOING

## NO END IN SIGHT FOR RAMSEY ROADWORKS

Work to the culverts underneath Ramsey Town Centre is now in its fourth consecutive month, affecting business and travel in Ramsey.

According to Cambridgeshire County Council, refurbishment to the culverts underneath Ramsey Town Centre was necessary due to degradation after previous work completed in 2014. The original plan entailed rebuilding a small section of the brickwork, but when surfacing was removed from the first section parts of the curved roof began to sag. After a four-week delay to redesign and submit new plans, work began and was due to be finished at the end of May.

According to the County Council Highways division, a further safety issue has been reported. A survey has uncovered asbestos cement, requiring the workforce to leave the site while it was decontaminated. Having previously only believed a small section of the culverts would require maintenance, work is now being carried out on a much larger cross section, resulting in continued delays. It is not thought that there is any danger to the general public.

Local historian Clive Beeke has been photo-

graphing the site during the two phases of work, and remarked on some of the methods used by the various teams, including packing polystyrene into the culverts to ensure they keep their form. He also commented on what may have caused the issues "As the photos show, it is both the bus station and the footpath that lie on top, which means it is not only lorries but foot traffic right on top of the culverting".

Meanwhile, local businesses continue to seek information and guidance from the council as their profits tumble. Claire, proprietor of Best Wishes, has seen footfall dramatically decrease since the roadworks began, saying: "It's been a lot quieter. Obviously, with the closure of Barkley's, that's probably had an effect as well. I think people are avoiding the town because they are being diverted around it, and people have this perception that there is nowhere to park because all those parking spaces have been taken up by roadworks".

Meanwhile, Paul at local clothing outlet Traffic said he was expecting a significant decline in profits. "In 2014, we believe we lost



Photo: courtesy of Clive Beeke

about £15,000 in revenue while they were working there, and we are looking at about the same thing now". He also confirmed that no notice was given, and that legal action had previously been planned in concert with other retailers, although it has since been abandoned. Specialist retailers have also been affected, with Jason at Hunting and Shooting Sports stating "customers have been apologizing for not coming in

while the town centre is messed up". He also suggested that the County Council must do more to signpost the other parking areas available and keep businesses up-to-date, saying "they give you one figure and then another and another. Surely they know what they are doing?"

At the time of printing, the council was unable to provide a timetable for completion of the work.

## IS PARKING THE REAL PROBLEM?



As work continues in the town centre, businesses across Ramsey have complained that the real issue lies with the parking already available in the town.

One such complainant is Ibrahim Sarica, owner of the new takeaway restaurant The White Whale. Mr Sarica, who prefers to be known as Ali, has suggested that it is not merely the roadworks which are cause for concern, but the attitude to parking in Ramsey in general. He has been working with the Town Council to address the problem. Ali, who has enjoyed some success since opening in December, has become increasingly concerned with parking in the

town. "During the daytime, all the parking spaces are taken up for 24 for free in the High Street. First thing is, that is affecting business for me, because customers have nowhere to park, and the second thing is deliveries, because they are forced to park on double yellow lines". Ali contends that businesses such as estate agents use the space that should be available.

He is not alone in his opinions. Claire, owner of the Best Wishes card shop, has noticed similar issues, saying "To be fair, shoppers don't park there anyway because all the Estate Agents use them. People have this impression that there's nowhere to park, so

I'm not going in there." Jason Pereira, owner and operator of Hunting & Shooting Sports, blames a lack of signage, commenting that "The Council needs to do more to let people know where to park. If you did not know about the [Mews] car park, you wouldn't park there".

However, progress is being made. Around 18 months ago, police tried to enforce parking in Ramsey, and objections were made because there were no signs relating to the road markings. The police discovered that the road markings did, in fact, not match. Ian Curtis, former Mayor of Ramsey and current Town Councillor, recounts what followed:

"In Ramsey, there are four different parking restrictions, ranging from 30 mins up to two hours. As a town council, we thought that sounds confusing to people. So we got together with the police, and around half a dozen residents, just to get their perspective on what we were doing". It was decided that, as two hours was approximately the amount of time to shop, chat or get a lengthy haircut, the best option would be a three-hour time limit, enforced from 9Am to 3PM.

Ian explained the decision: "We thought, then we won't be interfering with mothers bringing their children home from school, it won't affect residents that much because most go out to work by midday, and at three in the afternoon there would be no restriction so there would be no adverse effects".



Cllr Ian Curtis - hot on the case

He did originally recommend parking for businesses and residents, and questioned the nature of the District Council's decision not to allow such measures, saying: "For some reason, and I've never got to the bottom of it, they won't allow Ramsey to have resident parking permits. All the market towns have got it, but not Ramsey. No-one would give us a definitive answer why, they just said they did not want to offer residents parking Ramsey. Ramsey always comes at the bottom of the list".

The plan is currently still being implemented, and Ian expects progress on the issue soon. Until then, parking plans in the town will remain in effect.



# SAGA CONTINUES

## ROADWORKS AFFECTING THE TOWN CENTRE

1850's



Photo: courtesy of Clive Beeke

### Bridge over the brook

The very name 'Great Whyte' may stem from the original purpose of the street, as a docking area for barges to be unloaded for use at the Abbey and elsewhere. According to research provided by the extremely knowledgeable Clive Beeke, a local history enthusiast who also runs [www.RamseyAbbey.co.uk](http://www.RamseyAbbey.co.uk).

By 1841, a partial arch was already in place, and vestry minutes do not indicate when the decision was eventually taken to begin culverting as a while, but we do know that phase 1 of the culverting began in 1852. Clive's research suggests that work would

have been open to view by the public, taking evidence from the size, scale and shape of the structure. Clive is not sure which side the building work began, but damming would have been required

There were several reason why they did this, including a slowing of the river flow due to damming works further downstream, and the draining of Whittelsey Mere. The first contractor used were Boothe and Lunn, who came in from places unknown, but they were replaced by the reputable firm of Coka and Oakes, who came in from Swaffam, in time for phase 2.

### An engineer named Allan

Work was largely completed by navigational engineers, the famous 'navvies' to which Britain owes many of its great road and rail links.

During the original building works, a burst appeared part way down the tunnel. Seven months later, the tunnel burst again in exactly the same area, leading to the building of a large, central chamber approximately located under the town clock. As the picture shows, there is also a number of mechanisms placed strategically throughout the tunnels.

It is unknown why there is a weak point

there, but water flow was much greater then.

The lead architect, Mr Allan, who was only 22 and came from St Ives, came up with the idea of building two lateral tunnels to take the pressure off when it came under flood conditions. Thus, the two relief tunnels pictured either side of the main tunnel were built. Clive also believes that Ramsey benefitted from the very best technology available at the time period, as evidenced by the curved ceiling apparent in the picture, which would have required similar equipment to that used today.



Photo: courtesy of Clive Beeke

1860's

2014



Photo: courtesy of Clive Beeke

### WORK BEGINS

As the picture will suggest, tubing was inserted into either side of the culvert, which offered a short term fix for certain problems but has caused considerable issues down the line, leading to the current works. Also, when Ramsey first received access to mains water, a number of pipes were forced through the culvert at odd angles, and generally without much thought for structural maintenance, which has caused a number of problems.

An original team were sent to refurbish a section of the culverts between Barkley's Bank and the Bus station, stopping close to where work has begun this year. It is also

believed that a specialist team was brought in to remove rubbish, debris and calcium build up from the tunnels, as working in the confined spaces requires special health and safety training today. Some have noted that this kind of thing was not needed in the past, with children regularly playing in the tunnels up until around 1970, which security measures were strengthened.

This area has since been covered in concrete, and is therefore extremely difficult to reach, although this and additional wire framing has helped strengthen the section that lies under the busy junction.

### WHERE WE ARE NOW

Investigations are proceeding to explain why some of the damage appears to be more extensive than first thought. As opposed to a smaller rebuild, the County Council has now allotted funds to the cost of a full rebuild of the culvert from Little Whyte to the clock tower.

Council officials are currently pursuing a case against a utility company who drilled through the culverts to bury cabling, which is thought to have caused the bulk of the damage.

Clive also estimates that the culverts must bend along the main road, in order to follow

a route that leads underneath the George Inn, and therefore much of the subterranean areas lie beneath main roads, which would put them under stress.

It is not known at this time whether or not further work will be needed on other sections in the future, which could lead to even longer delays.

One final note is perhaps relevant, and that is cost. The original work in 2014 cost the County Council around £200,000. It has since been estimated by the that the current works will cost around £650,000, taking the total close to £1 million for the work.



Photo: courtesy of Clive Beeke

2016



# MAKING A MAYOR:

## THE STORY BEHIND ADELA COSTELLO, MAYOR OF RAMSEY

Every town hall has a certain something. Some exude history, while others offer a sense of power, even in today's diminished standards. Weather it is classic, charming or nostalgic, town halls still find a way to make you feel something. The Ramsey town hall is no exception. A newer design, it sits with some importance but without façade. In short, it is reliable, practical and down to earth, not unlike the lady I was there to meet.

When long time councillor and current Ramsey Town Mayor Adela Costello is seated in the council chambers, she generally heads the table, presiding over meetings with the ever present gavel placed alongside. When not in session, she confesses to prefer the other end of the room, next to the radiators. I can't say I blame her.

Full disclosure: this piece has been in the pipeline for several months, held off through lack of space or breaking news. Fortunately, it has allowed me more time to talk to our mayor, and I must say my first impressions have held up. Adela is exactly the sort of first citizen a town such as Ramsey needs; being genuine, honest, and open, while still down to earth and able to easily engage with people. Often bumping into her at an event or opening, she is always truly a pleasure to speak to, and comes across as a great ambassador for our town.

Despite giving the impression of a lifelong resident, Adela actually moved into the area in 1977. Speaking of her own first impressions, she recalls "driving past the Church and the Abbey, and the green, and falling in love". Fortunately for Ramsey, those feelings haven't changed. Founding and then running the Head-Start Nursery in Ramsey for many years, Adela is just as much a part of the town as any native, and has only just retired from that role.

Her local political story begins in 1985, with the beginning of what would be a extensive connection with the Ramsey Forty Foot Village Association. As Adela recalls, "the purpose of the village association was to pay for the village hall, which was on a mortgage, which meant lots of events that were good for the village. But my greatest achievement, which was for the children of the village, was overturning the County Council's decision that the secondary school children should pay for school transport."

It had been an issue in the village for many years, but at the time seemed to be largely unresolvable, given the nature of the problem. Adela, with the help of then Councillor Mrs Susan Norman and the Village Association, took over what was to become a very successful campaign. "I took it up and argued with the transport section of the County Council. They got the road safety to come out, give us a report, and all sorts of things, and eventually they sent me a report that said it was safe for the children to walk from Forty Foot to Ramsey on the road, according to their rules!" The Council made the point that, given children could walk for free, they should not be entitled to a free bus service. Game over? Hardly.



At the heritage Sunday with her husband, officially the Mayor's consort

It was at this point Adela turned to that most vital of tools, the County Councils own rulebooks. "According to their rules", she explained, "you needed a safe area alongside the road, and because the Council had dug ditches either side of the road, there weren't any, and eventually I got them on that! So I insisted it should go to appeal, and the day before I got a letter saying there would be free school transport for Forty Foot". Adela is proud to this day of her role in the change, which remains in place for all children up to the age of 16.

Her eventual rise to Mayor is a far more personal journey. Following a family tragedy, Adela had cause to frequently visit the Ramsey's cemetery, which at that time was being overrun by rabbits eating the flowers. Having got involved in the attempts to stop this, Adela decided it was time to "put my money where my mouth is", and was officially elected as a Ramsey Town councillor. Having served for a number of years, she was selected as Ian Curtis' deputy in 2014, before taking over the mantle of

Mayor following the national elections last year.

The rabbits, she laughingly admitted, remain a constant problem, but the association with the cemetery continues in the form of her mayoral charity: The Friends of the Ramsey Mortuary Chapel. "It's my passion", said Adela when I asked after this unusual group, "I could have opted for various charities, but I think it's better to concentrate on one charity for one year. There's nothing else for the friends of the mortuary chapel at the moment, while a lot of the others have things already set up." I was later fortunate enough to visit the chapel itself with the Mayor and her husband, and experienced firsthand her knowledge and enthusiasm for the renewal project being undertaken.

As for mayoral life itself, there are pros and cons. The mayoral obligations came as something of a shock at first, as Adela recounts. "I initially my husband and I were, every weekend, attending other mayor's events. There was one Sunday when we had to attend one in the morning at Godman-

chester, and then another in the afternoon at Whittelsey. Every weekend, we were doing something, and a lot of the invites came in the week, and of course because I worked, it wasn't so easy to attend those".

On the other side of the coin is the politics, which it appears Adela has something of a knack for. A born networker, Adela tells me of the important role civic functions play with regards to contact with other towns, saying "It had quite an impact on my social life too, getting to know all the mayors, but the good thing about that is you have an opportunity to discuss what is going on in each other's towns, and you are able to bring that information back to town council". When the County Council were originally discussing street lighting, this came into play. "I was at various mayoral do's and I spoke to the other mayors about it, because Ramsey had the option for paying for some lights to stay on", I am told, "and I was able to find out that other towns were not going to pay, which helped us reach a decision and, in the end, the county council have backed down".

Only two more factors seem to weigh heavily on the mayoral role. The first is speaking engagements, with the Mayor nearly always required to say a few words at any meeting, opening or gathering they attend. For Adela, this is particularly problematic; "I don't really like talking in public", she tells me, "I'm quite quiet and like to keep myself to myself, but whatever the role requires I take on board." I was also curious about the weight of history on the role, given its past influence and eccentric connection to royalty, but it seems a more physical weight is really the issue: the chain itself! "It's heavy, and it slips down", I was told, "and it's not even the biggest around". However, it is safe for Adela to admit, this is "the most expensive necklace [she] has ever worn".

Finally, we come to what I felt would be the most vexing subject of our discussion, the politics of Ramsey itself. With the switch made from largely non-political, to decidedly UKIP driven, and then back to declaratively independent, I asked Adela's own feelings on the matter. "Whether you do need politics in local government I don't know, but that's the way it's always been", she says, but stands by the council as it is now. "I actually think that everyone works really well together. Sometimes political comments are made, but in general everyone works together".

Adela is perfectly suited to the role of mayor, which can be summed up in her own words when she described what the role of mayor should be. "I think just generally to provide a safe and interesting area for the people of Ramsey. They really have a lot of advantages here, because there are so many things that are going on that you just don't realise". What is she looking forward to most? "The lovely big events like the 40's weekend, this year it's the carnival again, which involves the whole community, which is fantastic". I certainly look forward to seeing her there, and to her presence on the town council.



Adela presenting a trophy at the Queen's Street Party



# Fantastic Food Fayre attracts the crowds.

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The **Premier Kitchens & Bedrooms** showroom was packed with curious onlookers this month at their fun-filled Food Fayre.



For more information on Premier Kitchens & Bedrooms products or to book an appointment visit their website at [www.premier-kitchens.co.uk](http://www.premier-kitchens.co.uk)

Established since 1992, and having fitted over **19,000 kitchens and bedrooms** to local customers in that time, Premier Kitchens has become one of the largest independent local kitchen and bedroom retailers, and it isn't stopping there. The Food Fayre demonstrated not only their excellent and easy-to-find space, but also their love of food, offering several unique local businesses and a professional chef to cook for the guests. The chef in question was Richard Wolton Allen, a self-confessed lover of food who had spent most of the past 25 years as a restaurant chef doing anything and everything in the business. He had some treats lined up for the audience, but what he was cooking with was just as important as the food itself. AEG had brought their best, a new multi-function oven that made easy work of a beef joint, and a brand new steambake.

The cooking was superb, but the apparatus equally impressive. The induction hob (which was used to create a divine chicken paella) offered a surprisingly modern and safe approach to cooking, not only quickly getting up to temperature but also holding steady, which was perfect for the Spanish dish on display. Staff also showcased its unique safety and cleanliness feature, taking a £10 note from an audience member and cooking with the cash between the hob and the pan. The result? The tenner remained intact, much to the relief of the onlookers.



but that day he was showcasing not only his talents but those of AEG. Whipping up a batch of puff pastry with goats cheese and wasabi lettuce (surprisingly smooth), fresh baked crème scones (thoroughly appetizing) and mini chocolate muffins (the real crowd pleaser). What does Richard think of Premier Kitchens? "It's great, great setup, a great place to walk around and get ideas; inspiration more than anything! There's some lovely options in the way its laid out and there's plenty of options, finishes, different worktops and covers, and I just think its nicely done. It doesn't feel like a showroom, it feels like a kitchen."

Other than the display, several other stalls showcased a number of intriguing wares. In particular, crowds were drawn to Bonne Yaus, who offered visitors all manner of oriental sauces perfect for noodle dishes. My personal favorite was Buttercup Cupcakes, who provided a number of unique flavors all beautifully designed and decorates. Topping all this off was the Fudge Factory at Deeping St. James, who's display looked particularly stunning, and Watergull Orchard provided a wide range of juices and ciders to quench thirsts.

In short, this event displayed what Premier Kitchens was all about. It was open, friendly, informative and easy, with plenty of choice and a lively atmosphere throughout. A credit to the showroom and its unique feel.

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# On the trail with the Scouts

by Adam Roberts



Adam Roberts takes on the annual Broughton to Bury trek to learn a little more about our local scouting group

It's an hour before the 1st Bury and Upwood Scouts will depart from The Crown Inn at Broughton, embarking on a 5-mile hike back to the safety of my home village, Bury, and I am on the phone to Scout Leader Rob Jones. The pouring rain outside is only broken by the occasional boom on thunder, and I am convinced the long planned meet will be called off. A few seconds of stunned silence follow my asking Rob this, before he responds. "Yes it's still on. We're Scouts!" If anything summed up the mentality of this group, that was it.

By the time we set out, thirteen of the twenty scouts in the group had joined myself, Rob and the group's treasurer for the walk, which followed the public footpaths through the fields surrounding Wistow. As for the walk itself, it provided a unique experience for the group to encounter the tough terrain close to home, although Rob admitted that some of the kids already knew the way. "At least two of the boys here are from farming families", he said, "So most of them know their way around". If navigation wasn't the goal, what was? "I like to get them out and about", said Rob, who was never a scout when he was younger, "they enjoy it and it's what scouting is all about, being in the open air".



A decade ago, the Bury and Upwood Scouts did not even exist. Rob, originally believing he had been conscripted into helping out a local Cubs group, founded and led this team since the beginning, and now marshals over 20 members, several of whom are girls, whose compulsory acceptance into scouting groups was only finalized in 2007. He is, however, ideally suited to the role, being a natural leader and instructor (at one point stopping the group to point out a notable piece of history in the form of an old Motte and Baily Castle site). He is even something of an adventurer. As it turns out, this was not Rob's first foray into the wild. Last year, he and a small group had climbed to the peak of Mount Kilimanjaro, as had the group's

treasurer several years before.

What do they get up to? Alongside the regular duties of a Scout, which includes collecting a number of badges, these Scouts often visit local clubs, enjoying recent trips to the Whittlesey Gun Club and the Nene Valley Gliding Club. Fundraising also takes up some time – they recently competed in a fun run for the local Rotary Club – but in the end it comes down to basic skills such as fire lighting and knot tying.

What do the kids think? Mainly that it's fun! I caught up with two, Archie and Finley, who told me what they enjoyed. "You get to try stuff which you don't normally do, so during camps you always expect to do a massive walk, you get used to it" said Archie, while Finley took a more educational approach "I've learnt a lot about survival and helping to do first aid, stuff like that!" And for some, it's simply a learning experience, as one of the older scouts, James, tells me: "I did cubs before and I really enjoyed it, so I decided to carry on. It's fun, because there's always newcomers that are coming up, and you get



to know more about the area around you. I've lived here all my life and I'm still learning new things even now".

It was somewhat odd to consider the walk simply an educational exercise. In today's world of little free time, it is rare to attend

any lengthy physical challenge without a charitable element, and yet almost everyone ended on a smile. It goes to show, the younger generation get a hard rep for sticking behind their screens, but some are still out and about as ever.

## How do they stack up? Scouts, Cubs and Beavers explained

There are 450,000 young people in Scouting, spread across five sections: Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts, Scouts, Explorer Scouts and the Scout Network. Each section has its own balanced programme of activities, badges and awards, but there is still some confusion amongst outsiders as to how it all fits together.

### Beavers (Aged 6–8)

Beaver Scouts are the youngest members. They usually meet weekly to take part in a wide range of activities including games, crafts, singing, visits and good turns, along with plenty of outdoor activities. They will also have the opportunity to take part in the fun and excitement of camps and sleepovers. It may be the first time they spend a night away from home so it's a real adventure for them.

### Cubs (Aged 8–10½)

A Cub Scout Pack can have up to 36 Cub Scouts and is split into smaller groups called Sixes. Cubs take part in a wide range of activities designed to be interesting and challenging. A Cub Scout meeting consists of games and activities with plenty of time spent outdoors.

Camps and holidays are some of the most memorable events of the year for Cubs.

### Scouts (Aged 10½–14)

Each Scout Troop consists of small units of six to eight Scouts called a Patrol, usually led by a Patrol Leader. Outdoor activities

feature prominently, with the highlight being camping. Throughout the year, Scouts learn various skills, such as map reading, camp cooking and first aid in preparation for camp.

Rock climbing, potholing, gliding, photography and international experiences are just some of the things they get up to.

### Explorer Scouts (Aged 14–18)

Explorers are encouraged to lead themselves in deciding the programme and direction of the Unit, with support and guidance from leaders. The section also includes the Young Leaders' Scheme, where young people are able to take on a leadership role in one of the younger sections.

There is wider scope for activities like offshore sailing, campaigning, performing, parascending, mountaineering and expeditions.

### Scout Network (Aged 18–25)

Scout Network is the fifth and final section of the Scouting movement. Scout Network members take part in a variety of activities, which they undertake and organise themselves with the support of a Scout Network Leader.

Example activities include abseiling, camping, circus skills, climbing, go-karting, gorge walking, hiking, pioneering and watersports.





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## MEET THE TEAM

If you are looking for a smart way to move, then look no further than Smart Move, a brand new face to Ramsey but a name that resonates throughout the local housing market.

Founded in Peterborough almost six years ago, Smart Move has been growing since the very beginning, and is now bringing its fresh approach to sales and lettings to the Ramsey area for the first time.

Lewis Cooper, Branch Partner at Smart Move's newest site in Yaxley, told The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter that the company prides itself on its family-business beginnings alongside a vast experience and professionalism in all areas of the business, from valuation through legalities to completion.

The knowledgeable and enthusiastic team here combine their traditional estate agency experience with the very latest technology", says Lewis. "We go to extraordinary lengths to match your property to all possible prospective buyers. You can be confident that the Smartmove team will work tirelessly to maximise all opportunities to sell your home, fast!" The Yaxley office currently benefits from three full-time staff, always ready and waiting to take your calls.



Smart Move works on a no sale, no fee basis, meaning if they do not sell your property, it's theirs who are left out of pocket, adding that additional enticement to get your sale moving. Those fees themselves are very competitive, and can often include any and all extra costs, such as solicitors bills.

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will get your conveyancing completed effectively and professionally, while they use Independent Financial Advisors that cover the whole mortgage market.

So why not give them a call? Staff are on hand 6 days a week and are happy to take calls in their personal time, but you may as well drop into their family-friendly office and have a chat over a cup of tea. We can recommend it!

### **Lewis Cooper - Branch Partner:**

I started my career in Estate Agency 6 years ago and I haven't looked back since, I have trained in various different aspects of the job from sales to lettings, property management to property refurbishment meaning I can advise my clients in the very best way through every situation. We are a very family oriented team throughout both Smart Move offices and we like to treat our customers as one of the family too, nothing is ever too much for us and the kettle is always on if you want to pop in and say hi.

### **Tracey Carroll - Marketing Manager**

I am passionate about the area and using my wealth of local knowledge I can help you find the perfect home. With 19 years civil service experience and a further 5 years working for a local corporate estate agent, I pride myself on my attention to detail and high level of customer service and look forward to meeting you soon.

### **Jade Simons - Sales Progression Manager**

I recently joined Smart Move after working in property conveyancing for 9 years, I therefore have in depth knowledge and experience in property law. My main job is to progress all of the sales through to completion after an offer has been accepted. I have lived in the Yaxley village for 8 years and have a 5 year old son who goes to school in Yaxley.



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# Ramsey Library

## Events at Ramsey Library

Join the Friends and staff at Ramsey Library for a Drawing and Watercolour Workshop at Ramsey Library with the talented David Brown. The workshop will run as part of our Arts Alive programme from 10-4pm on Saturday 16th July at Ramsey Library. The course aims to teach you the basics of drawing in perspective and then translating this drawing into a watercolour painting.

Tickets available from Ramsey Library for £7.00 Suitable for beginners and improvers.

Are you a Star Wars Fan? Ramsey Library will be hosting a film screening of Star Wars-The Force Awakens on Friday 22nd July as part of their Arts Alive programme. Join us for the film and light refreshments. Door open 6.30pm with the film starting at 7pm. Tickets are £5.00 per person. Suitable for 12 years and over.

Young Volunteers needed for the fabulous Big Friendly Read Summer Reading Challenge coming to Ramsey Library throughout the summer. Are you aged between 12-16 years and enjoy talking to children and love books? We need your help with this year's scheme chatting to children about books they have read, handing out reward cards and assisting with simple crafts. Please pick up an application form from Ramsey Library if you are interested or ask a member of staff for more details.



## BIG LUNCH STREET PARTY

Ramsey Library was open on the day of the street party and inside Ramsey Crafters had a craft sale and were demonstrating several of the crafts they are currently "learning". Visitors to the meeting room were able to try their hand at book folding, crochet and beadwork, as well as having a good chat about the many other choices available to the home crafter. Ramsey Library Board were serving tea and coffee to complement the other beverage choices at the Street Party and raise money towards this year's Ram Jam book festival.

Lots of royal persons were seen round and about as at least 100 children made crowns adorned with glittering jewels. Some coloured in masks of the queen, drew their own pictures or tried to pin a tail on a corgi. Some of the Friends of Ramsey library helped at this extremely busy, but very happy event. They went home tired and leaving behind a trail of glitter. Thanks must go to all the helpers, the library staff and Cambridgeshire County Council for the use of the building and used it was as over 600 "visits" to the library were recorded!

## BEATRIX POTTER CELEBRATIONS

It is the 150th anniversary of Beatrix Potter's birth this year and the library will be having a special week to celebrate this, starting 25th July, which is the first complete week of the school summer holidays. There will be a display and quiz and on Saturday 30th July we are having a special day, where you can dress up as any of her characters, do some crafts, have refreshments and have your face painted! Come and join in the fun!



## Florence House resident Margaret celebrates 100th birthday

Florence House resident Margaret Peters celebrated her 100th birthday on 22nd June surrounded by friends old and young.

Born Margaret Maud Edmonds Jones in Norwich on 22nd June, 1916, the daughter of a builder, she went on to marry Douglas Hoppins in 1941, later moving to Huntingdon a single lady and as 'Mary' Hoppins she became a remedial teacher at St Peter's School.

In October 1978, Margaret married widower Albert Peters who was a Hunts and Peterborough County Councillor living in Ramsey St Mary's.

### Jones Court

Following Albert's death in 2005, Margaret moved into sheltered accommodation in Jones Court, Ramsey and she lived there until 2010 when, following a fall it became



evident that she would require full time nursing care and she moved to Florence House where she has the professional care of professional and friendly staff which, according to her nephew David Peters, is no doubt the reason for her longevity to date.

During my visit to Florence House to help Margaret celebrate becoming a centenarian, I was impressed with the joy that was created by the staff and visitors, including Jones Court Manager Sharon Dines and some of the children from Ramsey's Head Start Nursery School.

Last but not least a mention about the wonderful spread and birthday cake created by head chef Paula Day, who helped to make the occasion a great success.

A very, very happy 100th birthday to you Margaret from us all at the Reporter.



Margaret (100) sitting alongside Nicky Swann (104)

### 'Older' resident

I, probably like you, believe that reaching the great age of 100 years old is a heck of an achievement. However, you will see in one of our pictures Margaret sitting with an 'older' Florence House resident, Nicky Swann - who is 104.





# FUN ON THE FENS

By Enid Hubbard – Chair

On June 1st the Ramsey and District U3A hosted a meeting for the Anglia Network at the Community Centre in Stocking Fen Road. Always ready to promote Ramsey we began by having a 'Welcome to Ramsey' with video showing photographs of Ramsey and the surrounding villages taken by our Digital Photography Group.

## Celebration of all things U3A

Our theme was 'A Celebration of all things U3A' and to make sure everyone knew everyone else we held a quick friendship activity where members from March, St Neots, Huntingdon, Ely, Wisbech, Chatteris and Ramsey got to know each other.

This was followed by an interactive session where half of those present made crafts from old books, tin cans and odd bits of card. This was accompanied by much chatter, laughter and glue encrusted fingers. The other half met with representatives from local charities to discuss Shared Learning Projects.

The name 'Shared Learning Project' is given to any scheme undertaken between the U3A and another organisation. It is the means by which U3A members can give man hours to good causes and projects that need capable and experienced people to be foot soldiers, researchers or facilitators to make things happen.

## Local organisations

We invited three local organisations to the event. Gillian Rayment from The Ramsey Mortuary Chapel, Jane Sills from the Ramsey Abbey Walled Garden, and Nick Nixon from the Ramsey Rural Museum. The Ramsey U3A hopes to join with these organisations to complete Shared Learning Projects in the near future.



Representatives of the Ramsey Mortuary Chapel, the Rural Museum and the Walled Garden



Mike Lewis beside our new banner

Tea and cakes were served and each group took part in two team building scenarios run by Sheila Gilbert-Hill. The silence was deafening as each group worked individually on either 'Lost at Sea' or 'Moon Landing', before they worked as a group to complete the same task and the noise level increased as the discussion continued. Remarkably every team ended their assignments without 'loss of life' from their group which was put down to age and experience over youthful exuberance.

The afternoon ended with a presentation about the U3A linking all the events of the day.

We were delighted to welcome Adrian Breaker our Regional Representative of the U3A to the event which was a great success.



The Ramsey U3A Committee and Adrian Breaker

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# From Vampires to Witches

## Local author offers gothic twist on Warboys history

If Catherine Batty can be summed up in one word, it is likely "Words". Dominating the smartly decorated sitting room in which we met were two large prints – each a typed manuscript of a classic book emblazoned onto a single, sizable page. It is instantly clear you are in the presence one who loves our language.

A traditionalist at heart (one of the aforementioned story prints is that of Dracula), her take on the gothic has its roots in classic literature. "I could not stand everything that was out at the time. I decided 'I could do better'. I'm a Dracula girl... I come from the Dracula school of vampires and I couldn't deal with it". The first two books in her series were inspired in such a way, and the new novel based on the Witches of Warboys would seem to follow a similar theme.

Considering this, her original foray into the written world all began rather suddenly. "It really just started one night after I got home from work", she tells me, remembering the date exactly as one might expect of a born storyteller. "It was Friday the 12th of September 2008. The story had been in my head since 1995, and that night I just had to get it out."

From this the first novel in the Chronicles of Judas series, Judas Kiss, was born, but not before tragedy struck. "I got 20,000 words in a week, and then my computer died", she says, recounting how the work started all over again later that same week: "I started again, and I just kept going for six months, and then 160,000 words later I was done". She does admit it was quite the feat though, saying that at first, she just wanted to cry! Not one to rush things, it was still four years before the additional editing had finished, and it was finally self-published on Kindle and in paperback form. Well reviewed by readers and fellow writers alike, there was a huge appetite for the second, The Devils Whore, which is now on sale, and Catherine admits to getting plenty of requests for a third, which is currently in the works. Catherine relies not only on regular sales but also occasional bouts where the book is available free, which have greatly increased her fan base and general readership. In October alone, 11,000 copies were sold in one single, three-day free period, which Catherine says is far worth the loss of revenue.

Her next novel, still set in the same universe but not a direct part of the Chronicles of Judas series, is to take place in Warboys, and concerns the famous events surrounding the trial and execution of the historical Witches of Warboys. "I haven't figured out the entire plot yet", says Catherine, "but it centers around the jubilee, when the clock tower was built. However, it links back to the original witch trials, and Alice Samuel, who was the witch that was executed,



and the Throckmorton family, who were her accusers." There is a long road ahead, with Catherine conceding she has plenty of research still to do, but she admits that she has gained inspiration from the world around us.

"We're really lucky around here, we have so much that has gone on around us", she tells me when I ask after her inspiration, "so many world events have happened around here, and I don't think people know that, and that's what I really like. I always try and set my stories in real events, because if you have got something that grounds it in reality, you believe the fantasy".

As for being an author herself, Catherine still works full time and relies on a separate income, but takes great pride in her work, which comes across when I ask about the stress of putting your work out there. "I felt sick", she admits, "It's your baby, you've spent hours and months of your life on it, and then to let someone else read it is hard! And then, to get positive feedback and have people say 'you can't leave it there', is great to hear".

Despite her success, she is quick to note that it was not as easy as it sounds. It's a really hard game to get into, but as long as you go into it with your eyes open and don't expect to become a best seller overnight, you have nothing to lose", she says. Does she have any advice for those looking to follow in her footsteps? Her answer is simple, and defines a philosophy that has led to her success, and success that we are sure will continue in the future. "Sit down and write. You're not a writer until you sit down and put some words on paper. It doesn't matter how good it is, it doesn't matter if anyone will read it, if you want to do it just sit down and find a way of writing it".

Catherine's books are available on Amazon and elsewhere. Search Amazon.co.uk for Judas Kiss, or follow links from Catherine's own website [www.coj-online.com](http://www.coj-online.com).



## RAMSEY WALLED GARDEN RECIPE OF THE MONTH



### Courgette and Cheese Bread and Muffins

The courgette season will soon be upon us and we give two recipes this month. The bread is very tasty and ideal for picnics as it travels well. It is also good, slightly warm, with soup. The muffins are also great on a picnic or for the kids' lunch box.

#### COURGETTE BREAD

85gm (3oz) butter, melted  
225gm (8oz) self-raising flour  
½ tsp salt  
A pinch of chilli pepper  
110gm (4oz) cheddar cheese grated  
3 eggs beaten  
55ml (2fl oz) milk  
225gm (8oz) courgettes, trimmed and grated

#### Method

1. Preheat oven to 180°C, gas mark 4. Grease a 2lb loaf tin with butter and line with greaseproof paper.
2. Sift the flour with the salt and chilli pepper and put in a large bowl. Mix in the cheese.
3. Make a well in the centre and add the eggs, melted butter and milk. Mix well with the flour.
4. Add the grated courgettes to make a thick batter. Put in the prepared tin and level the surface. Bake in pre-heated oven for 45-50 mins or until a skewer comes out clean. Transfer to a rack and cool.

#### COURGETTE MUFFINS

225g/8oz self-raising flour  
1 tsp baking powder  
100g/3½oz courgette, grated  
salt and freshly ground black pepper  
75g/2¾oz Gruyère or cheddar grated  
175ml/6fl oz milk  
1 free-range egg, beaten  
75ml/2¾fl oz olive oil, plus extra for greasing  
1 tbsp chopped fresh rosemary

#### Method

1. Preheat the oven to 180°C, Gas 4. Grease the holes in a 12-hole muffin tray with olive oil or butter.
2. Mix the flour, baking powder, courgette, seasoning and 50g/1¾oz of the cheese together in a bowl.
3. In another bowl, whisk the milk, egg and olive oil together until well combined. Add to the dry ingredients, add the rosemary and mix until well combined.
4. Divide the mixture among the muffin holes and bake for 10 minutes in the oven, then sprinkle over the remaining cheese. Bake for a further 10-15, or until risen and golden-brown.
5. Serve the muffins warm, with butter.

#### HAVE YOU TRIED MAKING ONE OF OUR RECIPES?

If you have, we'd like to know your thoughts and how it turned out!  
[mail@ramseyandwarboysreporter.co.uk](mailto:mail@ramseyandwarboysreporter.co.uk)

# NEW OWNERS FOR HEAD START NURSERY SCHOOL

Since taking over at Head Start Nursery School Ramsey in April, the new owners have introduced a host of changes from a complete re-decoration of the building and bringing in new resources and equipment to enhance the children's learning and development. Head Start have also hired a completely new staff team to help implement these changes and to introduce the EYFS into the children's learning journals. All children have key workers and trackers are done so that children are meeting the appropriate milestones.

In addition to the facilities inside, there's a wonderful outside play area, the children also have a small garden area outside with strawberry plants, runner beans, sun flowers and in particular tomato plants that one of the children wanted to bring along which he checks and waters himself every day. "Each child has their own watering can for the fruit, vegetables and plants," said Kat. "We have a lovely apple tree which helps us demonstrate how and when the fruit can be picked and to explain to the children that not everything is safe to eat".

The new owners of Head Start also own and run a successful day nursery in Lincoln that caters for children from birth to eleven years so they bring a wealth of experience to running a busy nursery like Head Start.

## New staff

There have been some staff changes since April with new manager Kat Feveyer and



her deputy Stacey Hewitt joining the team. "We take children from two to five years and we see each child as a unique individual, focusing on their developmental age and stage", said Kat. "From this we set the next steps to enhance the children's learning experiences throughout the day", she added. Kat has been involved in childcare for eight years, achieving a university degree in Early Years Childhood and Education, covering birth to 18 years. She joined Head Start following on from her previous role as an early years training adviser. "We really focus heavily on the children, listening to their needs and that of their parents", she explained.

Stacey has worked in childcare for four and a half years and done all her training on the job

as an apprentice in a busy day nursery on the outskirts of Cambridge. Stacey completed her level 3 in childcare also covering birth to 19 years in 2014.

## Outings

They feel that it is just as important to enhance the children's learning not only inside the class room but outside too. For this reason, we take the children on outings such as feeding the ducks or picnics in the park. The adventure starts for the second we leave the setting. The children are able to see the world around them and let their imagination go crazy with the exciting wonders we see on our way. On our latest trip to Florence House Care Home to celebrate Margaret's birthday, of which there is a separate story in this newspaper, the children had to cross

a bridge, however the children began to create a story explaining that the bridge belonged to an angry troll. Before crossing then we had to knock 3 times until we knew it was safe to cross. "We also met a dog called Prince" explained Kat. The children compared him in size to other dogs they had seen, remarking on how soft his coat was", Kat went on to say.

As of September Head Start will be offering rugby training and cricket training as a fun physical activity for the children to be able to take part in and with positive feedback from parents they are hoping to be able to bring more groups from outside in to the nursery. They also look forward to welcoming new children and their parents that have already signed up for September.

Their motto is: 'Good, Better, Best – May we never rest, until our good is better and our better is best!'

They are all very excited for what the future holds at Head Start Nursery School and hope you will join them in seeing what exciting and wonderful things are around the corner. For more information and availability please do not hesitate in contacting a member of the management team for more information.

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# BREXIT : WHAT HAPPENS NOW?



*The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter takes you through the major changes likely to be brought about by the Brexit*



## TRAVEL

Because the UK is still a member of the EU, and will remain as such for as long as it takes to negotiate the exit deal, all current passports will be valid over that period - so there is no need to worry if you are travelling in the next few weeks.

After the UK leaves, there will presumably be new British passports that will no longer say "European Union" on them, but we cannot at this stage speculate on the validity of the older models. Most commentators seem to think they will still be valid for travel.



## HEALTH

It seems likely that the European Health Insurance Card will continue to work during the negotiation period. If the UK negotiates a deal to stay within the EEA, they would have continued use of such a card.

As for Britain's own healthcare system, Leave campaigners and Nigel Farage have stated that the NHS is unlikely to see any of the money promised during the campaign for some time, if ever, angering some supporters. In the meantime, healthcare in the UK is unlikely to change hugely.



## EX-PATS

As ever, UK nationals living elsewhere in the EU will keep their status while negotiations continue.

However, these negotiations will affect their lives. UK nationals claiming their state pensions in other EU countries benefit from annual increases. Dependent on the outcome of talks, UK pensioners in the EU could lose their annual increases.

Similarly, some UK nationals currently entitled to state healthcare funded by the UK government could lose such a privilege after any negotiations.



## DUTY FREE

There has been some talk of cheap holidays and duty free during the campaigns. However, it is unclear how this will eventually benefit UK residents.

It is generally agreed that, unless there is an agreement in the negotiations, standard customs limits are likely to be reintroduced.

As a general guideline, the limit for bringing alcohol such as wine into the UK from outside the EU is four litres, which is just over five standard size bottles.



## MORTGAGES

The Prime Minister claimed during the referendum campaign period that the average cost of a mortgage could increase as much as £1000 per year.

In terms of those tied to interest rates, or rented properties, David Tinsley, UK economist at UBS, is quoted on the BBC as saying he expects two rate cuts from the Bank of England over the next six months, taking interest rates from a current record low of 0.5% to zero. Costs for landlords are also expected to increase.



## HOUSEHOLD

Good news here for first time buyers, if not current home owners.

The Treasury has said house prices could be hit by between 10% and 18% over the next two years, compared to where they otherwise would have been.

The National Association of Estate Agents believes house prices in London could see the largest change, with the average house expected to lose up to up to £7,500. In this area, it said values could fall by around £3,000.



## WAGES

Wages are linked to unemployment and economic stimuli in general, so while wages will not be affected immediately there will be a knock on effect.

The economic shock of leaving the EU is expected to cause a rise in unemployment, with the exchequer estimating that wages will be between 2.8% and 4% lower at the point of maximum impact. In terms of a typical worker, they are left £780 out of pocket.

However, with an expected lengthy exit, it is almost impossible to predict the climate after a full Brexit.



## BENEFITS

If there is an election, then it will be almost impossible to predict changes to the welfare state. However, going on current climates, claimants can expect cuts.

Estimates of the size of the possible budget shortfall caused by a Brexit vary between £28bn and £44bn by 2019-20.

Since the welfare budget amounts to about 28% of all government spending, it is logical that it might see a significant proportion of cuts, although what these will be is impossible to know at this stage.



## TAXES

Again, this will largely be dependent on the political situation, owing much to the party or part of the party which comes to power in the coming months.

The current Conservative Government suggested that an emergency budget would add 2p to the basic tax rate and 3p to the higher. However, the Leave Campaign repeatedly stated a desire to remove the 5% VAT on domestic fuel.

It is not sure which of these could, physically or politically, be achieved.



## PENSIONS

Almost no good news here currently, and little on the horizon.

Despite a large number of elderly voters choosing to leave, the pensions system has been hit by a substantial drop in the pound and frantic selling on the FTSE 100.

Also, David Cameron has said the so-called "triple lock" for state pensions would be threatened by a UK exit. As an economic problem, this will either be proved right or wrong in the next few months.



## INVESTMENT

But during the campaign, the Treasury argued that UK shares would become less attractive to foreign investors should we leave the EU, and would therefore decline in value. In the short term, the market has fallen over 3% this week.

Many banks and financial advisory services have suggested that the stock market may rally in the near future, with Hargreaves Lansdown going as far as saying they could "not assume anything" with an out vote.



## PHONES

One of the bigger, and more surprising, promises made during the campaign was that roaming charges would no longer apply.

After the referendum, both BT and Vodafone have stated the opposite, that now the cap to roaming charges provided EU regulations would no longer apply.

The UK government could be forced to pass a law keeping this in effect, or risk fares rising for travellers.



# Get active and be inspired by Olympics sports



Children and teenagers are guaranteed to be kept active and entertained this summer by taking part in the many activities at One Leisure sites in Huntingdon, Ramsey, Sawtry, St Ives or St Neots and other venues across the district.

'Summer Fun 2016' is the comprehensive guide to sport and leisure activities that provide something for all ages, abilities and interests.

For those inspired by the Olympics, they will find the widest range of sports tasters where you can try something completely new or improve on your existing skills. Become an athlete by practicing your running, jumping and throwing, learn new sports such as handball or volleyball, dribble and shoot in basketball, develop your bow and arrow skills with archery, show off style and grace with synchronised swimming or bounce high on

the trampoline.

There are also activity roadshows which will take place in villages throughout the district. They will give boys and girls aged 5 to 11 years the opportunity to try a variety of sports and play activities in a safe and supervised environment.

It doesn't always have to be lots of effort as there are many creative and leisure activities where you can start from scratch to make

bread and cakes, learn basic first aid skills, design your own jewellery, try out exciting science experiments or become your own super hero.

The Burgess Hall has the worldwide hit TV show *LazyTown* performing their brand new show live on stage which is packed with singing, dancing, spectacular acrobatics, music and fun. For budding actors and actresses they are running full day drama workshops where you will star in your very own Fairytale or Shakespeare play.

Activities do not have to be exclusively for children only as there is plenty that families can enjoy together. Basement Lanes in St Ives have plenty of special offers in the school holidays which make tenpin bowling a great day out. The most popular family activity is still swimming and with even more daytime activities available and a choice of five swimming pools you will be spoilt for choice.

For younger children, there are Leo's Funzone soft play centres in Huntingdon and St Neots which provide the ideal place for kids to exercise and have fun through play. There are multi levels packed with climbing walls, ball pools, slides, spinning panels and swings. Adults can then relax in the cafe whilst watching their children play in a safe environment.

For further information about the activities available in the summer holidays, pick up a copy of 'Summer Fun 2016' from your local One Leisure site or download from **[www.oneleisure.net](http://www.oneleisure.net)**



Advance booking is required

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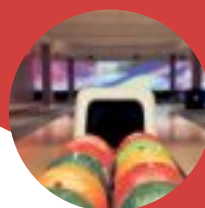
Roller Skating

Arts & Crafts

Swimming

Soft Play

Cooking



For further information please pick up a copy of **Summer Fun** from your local One Leisure site, any primary school or **[www.oneleisure.net](http://www.oneleisure.net)**

**Oneleisure**  
**[www.oneleisure.net](http://www.oneleisure.net)**

One Leisure is managed by Huntingdonshire District Council



## OPINION

### We fight on, we fight to win



by Adam Roberts

Never before have the words of Margaret Thatcher, then doomed by her 'perceived attitude to Europe', so clearly resonated in my mind.

The Conservative party has never truly agreed a position on Europe. As Thatcher strong-armed her rebate, so Major forced through Maastricht, and Cameron was left clutching at the straws of a broken legacy. One misplaced national promise later, and we find ourselves looking out to a new future outside the European union.

What are we left with? The nation has been cleaved in two; young resent the old for changing their destiny while the working classes defiantly reassert their rights against a burgeoning middle class. In the centre lies an immigrant population that has begun to fear for its place in society. Already, anti-Polish notes are being left for Huntingdonshire residents, while social media rages against a 'stolen future' and blames an opposed electorate.

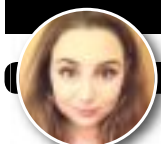
The political elite are no better. Both major parties face crowds of angry followers or smiling supporters in equal measure, while the struggle for ultimate power has left a gulf at the peak of our political system. I cannot blame David Cameron for calling it quits; he has fought and lost, and cannot be expected to continue. We need someone who can fight for a new vision, and while Cameron is more than capable, his heart simply is not in the fight. It is an honorable and noble step taken by a statesman, and should be honored as such, while those looking to succeed him would do well to follow his example.

As for the remainder of the country, now is a time

for healing. Arguments, like the cleansing fires used to renew the crops of old, are a time honored tradition that allow us to truly glimpse our country. Without rose-tinted glasses, we must accept one another again, uniting behind a clearer goal. We also cannot allow bigotry and intolerance to find its way through the cracks left in our society. We may disagree on politics, but this is a principled nation, and I hope that any foothold such prejudice may take can be quickly swept aside.

This cannot be the end. Indeed, for those expecting a Day After Tomorrow-style tsunami of grief and misfortune thrashing against our shores, the referendum must seem like something of an anti-climax. The pound may have fallen off a cliff, but the FTSE miraculously finished the week on a high (or as much of one as could be expected). European ideologues are being held in line by the Merkel Cabal, while life as we know it continues unabated. It is early days, and the cogs in the machine begin to turn against us, but for now we have our heads above water and room to breathe. What to do with that breathing space? Britain must ready itself, and it must do so united. Our leaders, elected to political parties that are designed as unifying bodies, must now make quick work of their challenges and come out ready to act. The country despairs of uncertainty, let us now have focus as we move to mend the fences that have been badly broken by this campaign. If I have one message to the community it is this, we are on a sole ship of state, sailing away from the fleets and beginning a new path to another world. We may not agree the course, but we all want to see the ship stay afloat, so let's wipe the tears from our sleeves and roll them up. The work must continue. The country must survive.

### The next generation: Shocked – but they will endure



by Bryony Smith

After the initial shock which swept the nation as we voted to leave the European Union, there has been an uproar from not only those that voted to remain but those who were actually unable to participate in the referendum.

Brexit has shown a divide between the generations, with the majority of the young and educated voting to remain. There has been massive debate from the younger generation as the generation that will have to live with the result of the referendum the longest. The fact that over 75% of 18 to 24-year-old voters wanted to remain comes with a bitter taste; it is a future that forthcoming generations did not want.

The most horrifying thought is how this referendum will come across to the rest of the world. The need

to leave so we have 'more control over immigration' could isolate Britain from foreign countries and trading markets. Japan has already stopped trading with Britain, while President Barack Obama released a statement saying that the UK is at the bottom of the list when it comes to trading: "The UK is going to be at the back of the queue".

Nigel Farage made the statement on ITV's Good Morning Britain that the EU claim that the £350 million spent on the EU each week that can be spent on the NHS if we leave is a lie. The advertisement on the side of the tour bus was essentially false advertising as their campaign was based on false proposals. Does this make therefore those who based their votes on these key claims invalid? Voting on misled pretences?

Although disheartening for the younger generation all we can do now is endure what is to come and hope for the best.



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# ABBNEY COLLEGE INTERVIEW

## Year 8 Students Interview Employers



"A brilliant opportunity for young students to see the variety of roles within different industries – It was great to see how responsive the students were to the different employers, especially when they were discovering new roles that they may not have thought of before".

Emma Richmond Marriott Hotel

"Wonderful school, the hall was perfect. Every member of staff I met was friendly and welcoming – from the teachers helping out to the catering staff. I think it makes a huge difference to the attitude of the students and this isn't always how things are in other schools".

Charlotte Steggall 3aaa

"Great school, students all seemed keen and happy to learn, It is a great idea for students to get an idea of different professions"

Graeme Ivatt  
Barclays Bank

"The students were fantastic, a credit to the college! Lots of them came up with great questions of their own, all were engaged, and all of them treated each other (and me) with respect".

Rosie Cope Anglian Water

"A very successful event, these events are very important to help give young students an insight into the world of work and the career path they would perhaps like to take in the future".

Matthew Thornton Breheny Civil Engineering

On Thursday 16 June, representatives from a wide range of sectors and businesses attended Abbey College, where they were interviewed by Year 8 students. This was arranged in partnership with the National Careers Service.

The event was organised, not only to give the students the opportunity to find out about different jobs using relevant questions, but also to help them develop essential work skills such as communication, interview techniques and confidence, all vital for a successful career.

Attendees included representatives from the armed services and hands on sectors

such as engineering and maintenance. Local employers were also present, including 3aaa and Anglia Water.

The event was deemed a success, producing glowing references from many of the attending businesspeople. To find out what they thought, see the 'What They Said' section, to the right.

Abbey College are continuing to work with the National Careers Service and also the Greater Cambridge/Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership to support students with all aspects of Careers Education, Information, Advice and Guidance.

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# 4x4 FIVE OF THE BEST

On the rugged, potholed and uncertain roads surrounding Ramsey, sometimes the only answer is sheer brute force. There is only one type of vehicle that can truly handle any conditions, and that is the 4x4. A staple of off-road and rally models for many years, 2015/16 has been a fairly good season for the 4x4, and here are five of the best models that you can still get fresh off the line this year.



## Land Rover Range Rover SV

The pinnacle of the Range Rover line-up, the sophisticated Range Rover SV offers unparalleled exclusivity courtesy of a bespoke exterior design, uniquely tailored interior and high-performance 550PS V8 Supercharged derivative, which has plenty of punch for your pounds.

And pounds aplenty this will cost! What do you get for your money? Well, Range Rover is all about the happy medium between performance and style. This will get you to where you need to be in plenty of time, and look good doing it. The 2016 model is distinguished by a new Range Rover bonnet lettering and an exclusive front grille finished in distinctive Graphite Atlas, while inside those in the back can enjoy luxurious seating complete with a chiller compartment and powered deployable tables.

These days, the Range Rover is as much a style icon as it is a vehicle. Celebs and dignitaries alike can be seen hopping in and out of these models, while some of the brands associated with the model are astonishing. A quick sweep of recent press releases shows Range Rover at launches for such companies as Abercrombie & Fitch, and Virgin Galactic.



## Dacia Duster Essential

Ever since James May first mentioned Dacia, this cut-price brand has been getting more and more attention. The 2016 Dacia Duster is no exception, and comes with a surprising amount of style and kit given its place at the lower end of the market.

While it might not be as indispensable to life

as the name may suggest, this limited edition version of the standard Duster was launched at the 2016 Geneva Motor Show. Competitively-priced and relatively exclusive, these versions combine a smart look with enhanced travelling comfort. Exterior features include a new body colour and new alloy wheels, along with specific badging and body colour bumpers. Inside, passengers benefit from Bluetooth and USB connectivity, electric front windows and central locking. For those looking at economy, they also enjoy a three-year/100,000km warranty.

Dacia itself has enjoyed a buoyant few years, achieving record sales in 2015, while the brand has just seen its number of Facebook fans exceed the three-million mark as members of its fast-growing community continue to share their passion for the make both on and offline. If you don't grab one of these soon, they may just loose that unique factor that owners currently enjoy.



## Jeep Grand Cherokee

I just want to get this out at the front, the Jeep Grand Cherokee is the most awarded SUV ever. I feel this needs mentioning, simply because you cannot enter a showroom, look at a brochure or even google a picture of this model without that popping up. Jeep, it seems, are very proud.

That being said, this is a very fine example of automotive engineering. Luxury might be at the fore, but the Grand Cherokee is a Jeep through and through. Traction is enhanced through the Quadra-Trac® II or Quadra-drive® II 4WD systems, complemented by the Selec-Terrain® and Quadra-Lift® air suspension systems (where available) for a truly optimised ride. Innovation that takes you where you want to go.

Big and bulky outside, it can still hold its own within, offering cutting edge navigation technology and some impressive infotainment features, while the interior styling is just a cut under the Range Rover. For once, you have to agree with the marketing spiel, this is the original SUV evolved for the modern world.



## Toyota 4Runner TDR Pro

Toyota mastered the art of the off-roader with its revolutionary Land Cruiser, while pioneering the crossover SUV. Today, it offers two of the best-selling models; the compact RAV4 and midsize Highlander. That makes room for a full-capability SUV in the line, and the 4Runner excels in that role. It's built as standard with a rugged body-on-frame construction featuring a 4-link rear

axle and coil-spring suspension. The TRD Pro Series comes ready to hit the trail with TRD front springs, TRD Bilstein high-performance shocks with rear remote reservoirs, Nitto Terra Grappler tires and a TRD front skid plate. The TRD Pro Series looks the tough part, too, with 17-inch black TRD alloy wheels, unique front grille, black bumper accents and special badges. In addition to black or white, the TRD Pro Series is available in a new exclusive color for 2016, Quicksand, which replaces Inferno.

Whether the destination is a difficult-to-reach bike trail, a hidden access point for river rafting or simply a spectacular view, the Toyota 4Runner has been getting owners there for 30+ years. The current-generation model is the roomiest and most capable in its history and sacrifices none of its rugged function to deliver everyday comfort and versatility. In short, the 4Runner really is the do-it-all SUV.

## RAM Power Wagon

Since its launch as a stand-alone division in 2009, the Ram Truck brand has steadily emerged as an industry leader with America's longest-lasting line of pickups. Ram's Heavy Duty truck line is a constant favourite, Ram Truck has held one title longer than any production pickup: the most off-road-capable.

It's not just the average user that adores these models. The Fast Lane Truck named the 2016 Ram Power Wagon the winner of its inaugural Gold Hitch Award for "Best Off-road Truck." In the kicking-up-dirt category, the Ram Power Wagon took top honors for outstanding capability and handling under aggressive



off-road conditions.

Just a tip for lovers of the Power Wagon, Ram has a whole new package in store for 2017. Power Wagon will top a lineup of off-road trucks that includes Rebel and the 4x4 Off-road Package. The new model will be styles as massively as ever, as the picture shows.



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06	Astra TwinTop 1.8 Sport, Blue, 40,000 Miles	£5,495	£4,495
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63	Mokka 1.7 Turbo Diesel Exclusiv, Met Grey, 15,000 Miles		£12,995
63	Mokka Tech Line 5Dr 4x4, Black, Sat Nav, 33,000 Miles		£11,995
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65	Insignia Tourer 1.7 SRi, Red, Sat Nav, Big Wheels, Leather, 6,000 Miles		£16,995
15	Insignia 2.0 Turbo Diesel, Black, Only 2,500 Miles, Save £7000 From New	£16,995	£14,995
14	Insignia 2.0 Turbo Diesel, White, Leather, Sat Nav, Host of Extras, 15,000 Miles	£14,995	£14,995
13	Insignia 2.0T Diesel 5Dr, White, Alloys, 25,000 Miles		£9,995
08	Insignia 1.6 Exclusiv, Silver, 68,000 Miles		£4,295
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14	Seat Ibiza 1.4 Toca, Met Grey, Sat Nav, 16,000 Miles		£7,295
08	Peugeot 807 Executive 2.2 TD Auto 7-Seater, 73,000 Miles, Local Car		£5,995
07	Mini Cooper 1.6, Leather Interior, Red, 65,000 Miles	£5,495	£4,995
10	VW 14 Fox (Ltd Ed) 3Dr, Black, 40,000 Miles, Lovely Example	£4,295	£3,995
08	Seat Ibiza 1.2 Freeland, Black, 45,000 Miles		£3,995
06	Ford Focus Zetec 1.6 Auto, Silver, 81,000 Miles, Lovely People		£2,995
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BY SAM THE PHYSIO

We all know that diet is an important factor with regard to performance in sport and exercise. What is perhaps less well known is how the food you eat can affect your risk of injury. In my experience nutritional advice can often get a little bogged down in the technical details which can be confusing and create difficulties in following said advice. I prefer to use some basic, easy to follow tips that won't unduly affect your daily routine.

We're all aware of the recommended guideline calorie intake of 2500 for men or 2000 for women each day; what this doesn't account for though is an individual's level of activity or rate of metabolism. It is important to note that as we increase our activity levels, we also need to increase our calorie

FOOD, GLORIOUS FOOD

Diet can be just as important

intake to keep up with the demands placed on our bodies. There is no need for careful calorie counting however, as you can judge, whether you are eating enough based on energy levels and body weight, usually the first sign that you are not eating enough is a dip in exercise performance. If it is workable I would suggest eating when you are hungry, rather than when the clock tells you to.

A common mistake is to remove as much fat as possible from a diet. We all know that fat is portrayed as the culinary villain and, if consumed in large quantities, it can play the role very well. What might be more surprising is a study showing an increased risk of injury in athletes with the lowest amount of dietary fat. Good sources of unsaturated fat are eggs, nuts and seeds which can be easily incorporated into meals or snacks. The most important thing is to ensure that the fats you consume are mostly of the unsaturated variety rather than saturated which can be damaging.

When you eat can be as valuable as what you eat, in particular after exercise. The body is more receptive to nutrients in the first 30 minutes after exercise. You should aim for something with a blend of carbohydrates and protein. The carbohydrates replenish energy stores and improve the efficiency



of proteins repairing the muscles; dairy is a good way to go with this, ie a milkshake or similar.

Probably the most vital thing to stay on top of is hydration, both for performance and injury prevention. Studies have demonstrated that just a 2% drop in hydration has a significant impact on athletic performance. Drinking plenty of water before, during and after exercise is a key part of maintaining physical capabilities due to water and electrolytes

lost through sweating and the bodies comparative inability to recover while dehydrated and, as logic would dictate, poor recovery leads to an increased chance of injury.

While it must be said that diet cannot work miracles on it's own, it is also true that when combined with sensible exercise programs your food and drink can be a powerful tool for both improving performance and fighting off injuries.

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Timetable effective to Thursday 21st July 2016 (please see [www.oneleisure.net](http://www.oneleisure.net) for summer holiday timetable)

Mo	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Baby & Toddler Lessons 9.30 - 10.00	Private Use 10.00 - 11.00	Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 3.30	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Public Swim + 1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30		Lane Swim 7.30 - 9.00
Tu	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.00 - 11.00		Aquafit 11.05 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 4.00	Junior Lessons 4.00 - 6.00	Public Swim 6.00 - 7.00	Lane Swim 7.00 - 8.00	Private Use 8.00 - 9.00
We	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Baby & Toddler Lessons 9.30 - 10.00	Aquanatal 10.05 - 10.55	Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Aquafit 12.05 - 12.55	Private Use 1.00 - 3.30	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Floats Fun 6.00 - 7.00	Lane Swim 7.00 - 9.00	
Th	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.00 - 10.30		Adult Lessons 10.30 - 11.30	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 4.00	Junior Lessons 4.00 - 6.00	Public Swim + 1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30		Lane Swim 7.30 - 9.00
Fr	Early Birds 6.30 - 8.30	Private Use 9.30 - 11.00		Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Adult Lanes 12.00 - 1.00	Private Use 1.00 - 3.00	Junior Lessons 3.30 - 6.00	Public Swim + 1 Lane 6.00 - 7.30		Lane Swim 7.30 - 8.30
Sa	Early Birds 7.30 - 8.30	Junior Lessons 8.30 - 12.00			Party Hire 12.00 - 12.50	Floats Fun 1.00 - 3.00		Party Hire 3.00 - 3.50	Swimming pool closes at 4.15pm	
Su	Lane Swim 8.00 - 9.00	Family Fun 9.00 - 11.00		Parents & Under 5's 11.00 - 11.55	Party Hire 12.00 - 12.50	Floats Fun 1.00 - 2.30		Public Swim + 1 Lane 2.30 - 4.00	Swimming pool closes at 4.00pm	





## SPORT

# Life in the Fast Lane: Catching Up with Alice Powell



To many, Alice Powell is an inspiration. Listed this year as one of the 50 Female Rising Stars in Sports, Alice has been karting since she was 8 years old, and breaking through the glass ceiling not long afterwards. Her career highlights include being the first and only woman to evert win points in GP3, one of the lower divisions of single seat racing leading up to Formula 1, and being crowned champion of two Formula Renault Championships. However, as with many of the current racing generation, it all began with Michael Schumacher.

"As soon as I could walk, I was on a little horse that had wheels on it, and I would pretend I was Michael Schumacher and race around a little track in our tiny little sitting room", she tells me. The fixation lasted as long as she could remember. "He was my absolute hero as a young racing driver. I used to have a little red race suit, and a little red plastic helmet, and I used to put that on and sit in front of the TV when the Formula 1 came on. Schumacher was the one I always looked up to."

Following in Michael's footsteps, Alice entered the world of go-karting, learning to drive at the age of 6 before going on to racing in single and dual seat cars from the age of 16. Her time has taken her to GP3, Formula Renault, Formula 3 and almost to the lofty heights of F1. "I'm lucky to have had a wide range of experience of wonderful cars

As one might expect from any racing driver, Alice Powell lives her life at high speed. By high speed, I mean busy, which is never makes this easy from the point of a potential interviewee or a journalist. Fortunately, we were able to carve some time out this month with a member of one of Ramsey's new resident families, and hear the incredible story of her racing career so far.

to drive", says Alice, although when pressed for a favorite she admits to really enjoying the GT Racers. "I also have great memories racing in the GP3, and was fortunate enough to have a test in an old Renault 3.5 car, which they used in 2009, which was rapid. So much grip, so quick". However, no favorite. She's enjoyed them all.

Her varied career since has sparked a number of highlighters, including her championship wins, but the real stand-out moments, as with many drivers, come at the circuits that have a history. "I was really very lucky to have the opportunity to race around the streets of Monaco in GP3, which is something that will stick in my memory forever as an incredible opportunity". I was also curious about a more unique opportunity she has had, to both meet and travel with current Prime Minister David Cameron. How did all that come about? "Back when I was 16 years old I was runner up in the young women of the future awards, and both he and Cherie Blaire were at the awards", says Alice, "and since then I've kept in contact and he's kept tabs on me." Having joined a trade delegation for the Prime Minister at one stage, Alice insists he has returned the favor, and even keeps his endorsement on her business cards. "He's been truly supportive of my racing, he's done a testimonial for me, and so he does keep tabs on everything that's going on!" Of course, one cannot converse with a racing driver without broaching that old English taboo, talking about money. While racing has always been a sport driven by money (no pun intended), these days it seems to be overriding the talent, with so-called 'pay drivers' taking seats that perhaps could have gone to a more talented driver. As a paddock regular, Alice has seen her fair share of this, and speaks candidly about the realities of the sport, which have occasionally affected her own chances.



"Money drives a lot of it. I've seen many drivers that I have raced against who have effectively lost their seat or have now given up racing because they have no money, and that is a position I have been in". She admits it has held her and many others back, quoting numbers that to many of us would seem simply unreachable. "It's massively, massively hard, to get to Formula 1 you are looking at anything between 5 to 20 million", she says, but I am reminded of her work ethic and fantastic perseverance as she continues: "If it's not in your control there is no point in worrying about it. If you going to sit here worrying it's not going to get you anywhere. If you're going to sit there moaning, it's not going to get you anywhere. So, that's something I've learnt and I've been told by people in the sport, and those comments are something I have carried with me, and have helped me."

I am also keen to know how, being very much a woman in a man's world, her experience of racing has been affected by the simple fact of her gender. "There are pros and cons", she admits, "Some won't take you seriously, but of course you are also fairly unique within the world, and that has its advantages". Having been recently critical of Bernie Ecclestone, F1 Supremo, and his comments regarding female drivers, I asked her if she had changed her opinions of the sports higher echelons? "Bernie has always had his

own views, and he always will. I think he has done very well, and I don't think Formula 1 would be there without Bernie, but I have my own opinions too. We're all out there to drive, male or female we want to do the best job possible, we're just as competitive as each other and there is no reason we can't compete at a high level against each other". This year, Alice has been running an all-female kart team in the Formula Kart Stars Championship, and coaching a number of young drivers through the ranks, although is still committed to racing for herself and her teams. What advice does she have for young drivers? "Get up to speed on the indoor or outdoors circuits, because you can still learn from those. I still send a couple of my drivers to indoor circuits now, because there's not a lot of grip in them and it's great for training. If you still fancy it, get to your local track and have a look around, depending on your age go and look at the different classes and get yourself a go-kart and jump in".

Alice Powell personifies the racers spirit, a combination of determination and the talent necessary to see through her aims. Whether it be monetary barriers, glass ceilings, hard races or paddock politics, I have no doubt she will see it through. On behalf of The Ramsey & Warboys Reporter, I heartily welcome the Powell family to the area, and will enjoy watching Alice's career with interest.



## SPORT



## Grow the Game funding for Ramsey Pavilion Football Club welcomed by TV's Hayley McQueen

Sky Sports News presenter Hayley McQueen has congratulated Ramsey Pavilion FC, known as The Pavo's, after they received a £3000 Grow the Game grant from the Football Foundation, the country's largest sports charity.

The grant, which will provide a boost to grassroots football in Ramsey, has paved the way for The Pavo's to re-establish as a Saturday football team playing in the Cambridgeshire League. Initially they will have 1 team but the intention is to create more in the future as they look to provide young players, coaches, volunteers and the wider community with a real opportunity to be involved in sport.

The Grow the Game scheme is designed to increase participation in our national game amongst under-represented groups by helping clubs to meet the essential costs of starting new teams. It is funded by the Premier League and The FA and delivered by the Football Foundation.

Grow the Game goes beyond providing temporary activity sessions, which are more susceptible to drops in participation, but instead creates a solid infrastructure of newly-trained coaches and grassroots teams that play in FA-affiliated leagues for the long term. This means that the participation increases elicited by Grow the Game are sustainable and long-term rather than transient.

Grow the Game grants enable clubs to provide regular football for three specific sections of society where there is a demand but also a lack of opportunities. These sections are: women and girls; disabled

players; and boys and mens' teams from the Under-15 age group and above. This demographic has been targeted specifically to address the decline in participation in male football that occurs as boys progress through school to the more crucial exam years and eventually leave school and college altogether.

Jon Cade, Chairman of The Pavo's, said: "We're delighted to have received this grant from the Football Foundation. From the outset we've had big ambitions to create a real club for the community, focussed on participation and getting people involved in sport. We know that the hard work has just started but we are committed to our goals and the Grow the Game grant gives us a great platform achieve them."

A Football Foundation Ambassador and one of the UK's best-known female sports journalists, Hayley McQueen, said: "Very well done to The Pavo's for working with the Football Foundation and Huntingdonshire FA to secure this Grow the Game grant. This investment, which is provided by the Premier League and The FA, has created an opportunity for more people to play football, which will not only keep them fit and healthy but also develop their life-skills.

"Grants like this one make a real difference to grassroots football. They help clubs meet the costs associated with starting a new team – like getting volunteer coaches qualified with FA coaching badges – and so help to drive up participation levels in the sport, especially amongst under-represented groups."



## PAVO'S PREPARE FOR THE SEASON

Ramsey Pavilion FC continue to make huge steps forward as they prepare for their first season since re-establishing at the end of 2015. Formerly a Sunday League side 'The Pavo's' are affiliated to Huntingdonshire FA and have been entered into the Newmarket Motors Division 2 of the Cambridgeshire County League. The team behind the re-established club believe this is a great starting point and an opportunity to have some early success as they look to quickly navigate through the divisions to senior football and beyond.

The Pavo's history so far:

- Founded in 1999 by Alex Buckle and Terry Petriello, playing in the St Neots & District League
- Successive promotions through the decisions to play in the Premier League in 2005
- Winners of the Polembros shipping of Greece Cup in 2004, beating BRJ in the final at Somersham Town in front of several hundred supporters
- Original Pavo's fold in 2007
- Re-established by former players Jon Cade, Nick Kay and Darren Stokes in November 2015
- Agreement with Ramsey Cricket Club to be based at The Pavilion and use Cricketfield Lane for home matches, sharing the pitch with Ramsey Town FC
- Announced sponsorship agreements with ERMS and Xtreme Events, two thriving local businesses
- Appointed Ramsey resident Matt Brading as first team manager
- Ramsey Pavilion FC is set up as a Community Interest Company (CIC), meaning they have to act for the good of

the community, and no profits or assets can be diverted away from the club and the community

● Awarded a place in Newmarket Motors Division 2 of the Cambridgeshire County League.

Work hasn't stopped for Ramsey Pavilion though. They held a Sportsman's Dinner with on 24th June to raise money for the club and to support the work they want to do in the community. This will include projects to help people get into sport, not just football, and an initiative to help people understand the career opportunities that are available in sports outside of playing, such as coaching, physiotherapy and journalism.

Paul Merson retold stories of his colourful and controversial career as a professional footballer, many of which cannot be repeated here! A great time was had by the 150 guests that attended the event.

Whilst they have already have a lot of interest from players wanting to join they are still looking for more players to bolster the ranks and are open to hear from anyone interested in playing in the 16/17 season with pre-season training starting in July. If you want to be involved as a player, volunteer or if you want to work them as a sponsor you can contact The Pavo's through Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, just search for Ramsey Pavilion, or by email at [info@ramseypavilionfc.co.uk](mailto:info@ramseypavilionfc.co.uk).

If you want to be involved as a player, volunteer or if you want to work them as a sponsor you can contact The Pavo's through Facebook, Twitter or Instagram, just search for Ramsey Pavilion, or by email at [info@ramseypavilionfc.co.uk](mailto:info@ramseypavilionfc.co.uk).

## Gran Fondo fun in the sun



Crowds gathered in Upwood, Forty Foot, Benwick, Ramsey Heights and Tick Fen on Sunday 5th June for the Tour of Cambridge Gran Fondo, with hundreds of riders taking part in the largest cycling event in the County. Event organisers praised the success of the weekend, which also included a time

trial road race.

There was some controversy over the occasion, which caused closures in several major roads and left people unable to get to their homes. It was also said that, due to a lack of publicity, crowds were smaller than could be expected.





# SPORT

## Upwood Cricket Club Update

By Neil Tuffin

### Open Day and Pavilion Unveiling

On Bank Holiday Monday 30th May the Cricket Club held an Open Day to unveil the improvements to the pavilion with about 100 people attending. Despite there been a keen Northerly wind the rain held off and the festivities started with an adult/older junior 15 over game. The Upwood "Wagtails" scored 95 runs off their allocation of overs and even though the Upwood "Kites" were one player light in the field things were very close right up to the last ball with 2 needed to win. Although a single was scored the scrambled second run was always unlikely to be successful and the game resulted in a tie; an exciting and perfect result. The juniors then took centre stage with mixed under 9/under 11 playing against each other. The game showed off some of the many talented juniors and the teams were captained by the sisters Ellie and Abbey Smith.

Throughout the day there was a Bouncy Castle and garden games to keep the younger children happy. The BBQ was manned most of the day by Chairman Rob Landymore and Martin Smith after some wind breaks were hastily fashioned from some old panelling to baffle against the strong breeze. To go with the BBQ there was a number of delicious salads

and side dishes produced by the mum's and grandmother's of the juniors.

Prior to the evening entertainment club stalwart Neil Tuffin thanked those who had helped with the Open Day but in particular two people who had made all the superb changes to the pavilion possible. First Rob Landymore from Parallel UK received some of his favourite tippie (Old Speckled Hen) as a small thank you for the large sponsorship that Parallel has put into the club to pay for all the materials. Rob has also helped out with much of the "donkey work" and is indispensable flipping burgers or grilling bacon for sandwiches on Sunday morning kids's games. Secondly, David Drage who has spent many many hours at the club over the winter and spring carrying out major renovations that required a skilled hand and lots and lots of hard work. For his sterling efforts David has been granted Life Membership of the Club and received an engraved silver tankard with his name and the club badge. Without these two people (plus many others) the clubhouse and the club itself would not be in such a high - well done guys!

With all the action on the field done the disco (a first for Upwood CC) started up and Dom the DJ did a great job getting all the juniors dancing with all the right actions. The adults chatted, had a drink (soft or otherwise) and some even

danced until the close at 10 pm. Everyone seemed to have a good time in part due the smiling faces of bar ladies Catherine Tuffin and Alison Gilbert and a very nice barrel of beer donated by Mark Gilbert of Gilbert-Scape landscapers. As well as having a great time, promoting the club, thanking everyone for their hard work the club raised over £400 in profits which is very much needed following the spending in recent months.

### Cricket Results

Despite a bit of a shaky start to the season the first team is now producing some excellent performances regularly scoring over 220 runs or skittling teams out for low scores. A notable performance at Newborough saw Upwood piling on 277 runs of which 166 (a club record) was plundered by Ian Jones. Pick of the bowlers for the season so far is Ryan Drage with 14 wickets at a strike rate of a wicket every 26 balls. As of the 14th June Upwood 1st are second behind Alconbury in the Hunts League Division 3.

The seconds who play on Sundays have struggled somewhat and have had to regrettably to cancel two games due to lack of numbers. Unfortunately, it seems other local teams are also struggling for players. Things have got a little better recently but Adam Dean the skipper would welcome anyone wishing to play

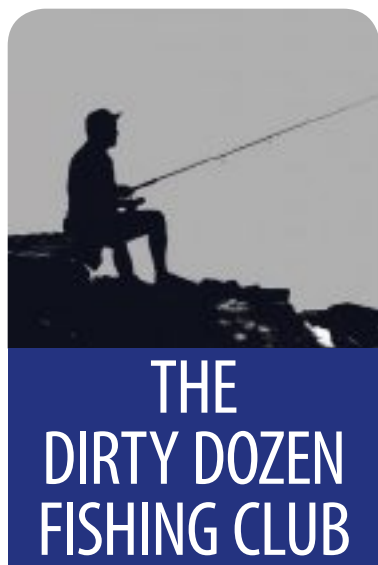
even just for a game or two. Despite there been some notable individual performances (Jason Short 66 not out against Little Paxton and John Paxton 4-23 against St Ives) the seconds have yet to record a win.

The under 9 and under 11 have performed very well and are building on last year successes. Many of the juniors are developing quickly and putting in some excellent performances particularly at fielding and bowling. Junior coaching continues throughout the summer on Monday evenings.

### Andre Goodison Memorial

On June the 5th June at Abbots Ripton CC a game in memorial of ex Upwood cricket player Andre Goodison was held. Over a hundred people attended with representative from Abbots Ripton and Upwood CC (Andre played for both). Andre sadly passed away, aged 58, on May 8 following a three-year battle with cancer after being diagnosed with a brain tumour. He was originally from Cape Town in South Africa and had played at a very high standard; his bowling record is outstanding for both clubs. The matched raised £1,000 which will be divided between the Sue Ryder and Chance to Shine charities and will also fund the cost of a trophy to remember Andre's sporting achievements.

If you wish to join or want any more info please email Neil on [npe.tuffin@gmail.com](mailto:npe.tuffin@gmail.com) or visit [www.upwood.play-cricket.com](http://www.upwood.play-cricket.com)



## THE DIRTY DOZEN FISHING CLUB

*Are a friendly and welcoming local fishing club.*

If you are interesting in fishing at locally available waters on alternate Sundays from 3rd July, 2016 contact:

Club Chairman: Dave Stanbridge (01354 653729) or Club Secretary: John Laver (01487 815106)

## CROSS CHANNEL CHALLENGE

An adult volunteer with the Air Training Corps from Cambridgeshire is preparing to put on her goggles for a cross channel swim for charity.

Flight Lieutenant Helen Roseman, who is Officer Commanding 511 (Ramsey) Squadron is joining a team of intrepid swimmers from across the country to battle tides and jellyfish on a relay swim of the English Channel this summer.

The challenge, early this month is just one of many events the RAF Air Cadets are holding this year to celebrate their 75th anniversary. Helen has been training hard both in the pool and gym at Virgin Active in Peterborough, Tallington Lake in Lincolnshire, with sessions in the sea at Tinside and sea water pool in Plymouth, for months building up endurance and stamina as well as getting used to the motion of the sea.

The 21-mile swim is expected to take upwards of 12 hours, with each swimmer - in two teams - bracing the 16°C waters for an hour at a time.

The swim will be adjudicated by an observer from the Channel Swimming Association to ensure that all rules are followed for the

event to be officially recognised.

Helen said: "We have all put in a massive amount of training and had to go through a rigorous selection process so it will be good to get into the water - we're all very excited and hopefully we will also raise money for the RAF Air Cadets."

Helen's Sector Commander, Squadron Leader Rob Bradshaw, said: "Flight Lieutenant Roseman has worked extremely hard over the past months to become part of this prestigious event to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the Air Training Corps. The Cross Channel Swim for Helen is the accumulation of months of various selection swims, hard training in the pool, and more recently open water swimming, getting herself fit enough and really to participate and complete the challenge."

"Helen has used all her spare time to build up her stamina through regular sessions in the local swimming pool and Tallington Lakes for open water swimming; she has recently rekindled her love of competition swimming by entering the European Master Swimming Competition."

"What people sometimes forget is that,



like all Air Training Corps volunteers, Helen holds down a full time job and completes her training and work within the Air Training Corps in her spare time, this is added to the fact that Helen is getting married this September."

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## STEVE BATTLES TO CRAZY GOLF SUCCESS



Steve Lovell about to celebrate a two at the last.

### Minigolfer Steve wins biggest prize money of his career

Ramsey minigolfer Steve Lovell produced a typical fighting display to earn the biggest prize money of his career with a seventh placed finish at the World Crazy Golf Championships in Hastings, from a field of seventy one.

Steve started the final round in fifth spot but was soon in trouble after two holes. "I played a couple of loose shots, which cost me big time. There are different rules in the final round where all three balls are in play. I could have folded but I gritted my teeth and getting an ace so soon after the bad start kept me in it," said Steve

### Lit the fuse

It wasn't until the closing stages of the last lap that he really lit the fuse. "I didn't really know who was on what score apart from my group. I managed to get the 16th and within two minutes, the 17th as well. I was so fired up." As some of his opponents faltered, Steve held his nerve at the last for a two and share of sixth spot. In the resulting playoff, Steve ended up seventh, finally being defeated



Steve Lovell aces the 16th on his way to seventh spot.



Receiving the prize money from the manager of Hastings Adventure Golf, Simon Tompkins. Credit: Chris Wood, Marion Homer and the British Minigolf Association.

at the sixth extra hole by Andy Exall of Tunbridge Wells.

Michael Smith of Oxford won his fourth World title, with Dartford's Sean Homer in second and Aveley's Mark Wood in third. The result still keeps Steve in second in the British rankings. Next up is the World Adventure Golf Masters in Prishtina, Kosovo.

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